

**NJIOA Minutes
November 13, 2025
(Amended December 11, 2025)**

Chair: Jeff A

Vice-Chair: Susan S

Treasurer: Ilene W

OA Responsibility Pledge: Jeff
12 Steps: MaryAnn
Concept of the Month: Mike

Serenity Prayer: All
12 Traditions: Mark
Unity with Diversity Policy: Barbara

Introduction: Roll Call:

Barbara R, Mon am Lifeline Meeting
Fran, Events, Co-Treasurer Winter Retreat
Gail, Corresponding Secretary, Thurs Relapse meeting
Ilene W, Treasurer
Jeff A, Chair, Sun am West Orange meeting
Jennie, Zoom Chair
Judy L, Events Chair
Loraine, Recording Secretary, Region 7 Rep
Mary Jeanne, Sat New Providence meeting
Maryjean, Fri 7:30 pm, Sat 8:30 pm meetings
Mark H, Saturday newcomers Cedar Knolls meeting, Hot Line
Mary Ann, Oasis Co-Editor, Wed pm Saddle Brook meeting
Mike H, Sun pm Montclair Body Image meeting
Rena, Sponsorship Coordinator, Sat am Montclair meeting
Roz, Wed am HOW meeting
Steven S, Website Chair
Susan S, Vice-Chair
ToniAnn, Parliamentarian

Jeff called for a motion to approve the October 9, 2025 minutes

Motion: Susan Second: Barbara Motion Approved

Treasury: Ilene reported income is meeting projections. The one-third of the budget allocations was made in November to World Service and Region 7. ~~She noted most of the donations received come through PayPal and asked members to spread the word that using the "Friends and Family" option when donating will eliminate the intergroup fee.~~
Jeff reported that he writes thank you notes to each of the meetings that send checks for their donations. The mail is picked up from the post office box once a month.

Oasis: Mary Ann reported the next issue will be Winter/Spring, the topic is Living In The 12 Steps and the deadline for submitting articles is January 1. Submissions should be within 200-

300 words and are very easy to do on the website. Once the issue is published she will contact the 16 in-person meetings to ask if the number of issues received was too many, not enough or just right in order to print sufficient copies.

Public Information: In Terry P's absence, Jeff asked Mark for his opinion on the OA presence at the October American Psychology Association event. Mark said that Terry P would be able to give a more detailed report. As a volunteer, he said most traffic occurred during breaks, about 10 to 11 people stopped by the information table and one showed very sincere interest.

Scholarship: Susan reported there were no requests for a Big Book or OA Step book.

Sponsorship: Rena had received sponsorship emails from 2 people and was able to contact one of them. There have not been any sponsorship emails for a couple of weeks. Rena thanked those promoting the in-person Thanksgiving Day Gratitude meeting to be held at the Presbyterian church on Norwood Avenue in Upper Montclair from 9:00–10:00 am.

Website: Susan reported that Maria S is the new Chair for the website committee and should be contacted for anything to be added or changed on the website.

World Service: Gail reported the in-person World Service business conference will be held April 20-25 in Rio Rancho, NM; registration will be open in January. Jeff mentioned financial support would be available for a member who would like to attend the business conference; if interested, contact Jeff.

Region 7: There are 346 registered intergroups in Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Virginia (NoVA) and the District of Columbia. NJIOA is the second largest intergroup with 44 meetings and can have 5 representatives. The virtual convention, held November 1, was a success; the theme was Balanced in Recovery and the two keynote and 6 workshop speakers shared stories of their physical, emotional and spiritual recoveries. The 2026 convention will be in person October 23-25 in Bethesda, MD. The theme is: I Put My Hand In Yours; Welcome Home!

Events: Judy reported she had not received information regarding the Firelight Meeting.

Saturday, 11/15: I.D.E.A. International Day Experiencing Abstinence virtual workshop, 2-4 pm, with 3 speakers sharing on how to become and stay abstinent.

Thursday, 11/27: Thanksgiving Day Gratitude in-person meeting, 9-10 am; Presbyterian Church, Norwood Ave., Upper Montclair

Friday, 12/12: 12th Step Within Day virtual workshop, 7:30-9:00 pm sponsored by the Friday night HOW meeting and NJIOA.

Jeff announced a planning committee is being formed to discuss new 12-Step Within options. Small in-person, supportive, social gatherings could be scheduled, maybe a lunch or dinner at a diner or a BYO in someone's home. The goal is to bring back the physical connections experienced at in-person meetings by having smaller, less structured, more easily arranged get-togethers. Contact Jeff if interested.

Saturday, 2/28/2026: NJIOA virtual Winter Retreat, Stories of the Big Book, 9:00 am–5:00 pm; there will be 2 keynote and 8 workshop speakers.

- Jeff spoke of the need for volunteers to moderate, to be timers and to assist with zoom responsibilities. He also noted there is a lower suggested donation of \$5.00 and NJIOA will be generous with scholarships as the retreat is an educational and social event not a fund-raiser. Volunteers should contact Jeff.
- MaryAnn stated she and Fran are working with Patrick, the webmaster, getting the link up live and tested; the document with the live link allowing registration online using a credit or debit card or PayPal will be available shortly.
- Ilene noted that when donating on the website, there will be a box regarding the PayPal service fee to be charged to NJIOA. It is completely optional, but the donor can check it and cover the fee by adding it to their donation, or not.

Old Business: Jeff reported work is being done to clarify and expand descriptions of the intergroup committees. A description of each committee will be posted on the website which will make it easier for people to understand what they do and provide information for volunteers looking for service opportunities.

2026 Nominations: Barbara R gave a list of officers to be nominated for 2026: Chair, Vice-Chair, Treasurer, Secretary, Recording Secretary, Parliamentarian. Nominations can be made for a person or one can self-nominate.

After a discussion clarifying procedures, each of the following current officers who nominated themselves to continue in their respective positions accepted the nomination: Jeff A, Chair; Ilene W, Treasurer; Gail S, Corresponding Secretary; Loraine B, Recording Secretary; ToniAnn, Parliamentarian. Jeff A nominated Ed A to be the Acting Vice-Chair, who accepted before tonight's meeting

Motion to accept the slate: Mark Seconded: Fran Motion Approved

Discussion and vote on the slate will be held during the December meeting. Committee chairpersons will be nominated in December with discussion and voting in January.

Jeff stated that Susan would not be continuing as the Vice-Chair. He expressed his thanks for all of her help in this past year, for supporting and guiding him almost on a daily basis so he would not go too far astray. He said it was not possible to thank her for all her contributions.

There was a moment of silence for Marcy who died on October 23, the member of the intergroup who presented the monthly report from World Service.

The meeting closed with the OA Promise.

Next NJIOA Meeting: December 11, 7:30 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Loraine B, Recording Secretary