

NJIOA Minutes June 11, 2026

Chair: Jeff A

Vice-Chair: Mark

Treasurer: Ilene W

Serenity Prayer: All

12 Steps: Mark H

Concept of the Month: Mary Jeanne

OA Responsibility Pledge: Jeff

12 Traditions: Barbara R

Unity with Diversity Policy: Judy

Introduction: Roll Call:

Barbara R, Mon am, Lifeline meeting

Cindy, Guest

Fran, Fri pm HOW meeting, co-treasurer Winter Retreat

Gail, Corresponding Secretary, Thurs Relapse meeting

Greg S, Wed pm Men's meeting

Ilene, Treasurer

Jeff A, Chair, Sun am West Orange BB meeting

Judy L, Zoom committee

Loraine, Recording Secretary, Region 7 rep

Mary Jeanne, Sat am New Providence Meeting

Mark H, Vice-Chair, Cedar Knolls Beginners' meeting, Hot Line, Region 7 rep

Pinney, Tues pm, Montclair meeting

Susan R, Saturday am Ridgewood meeting

Susan S, Website Chair, Scholarship/literature coordinator

Terry P, Public Information committee

Minutes: May 14, 2026

Motion to approve: Fran

Second: Mark

Approved

Committee Reports

Treasury: Ilene noted a correction to the May treasury report; the total PayPal figure of \$185.22 was included in Total Income but the details were omitted on the itemized contributions list. Ilene pointed out that income in May of \$400 was the lowest and there were no PayPal contributions from meetings. Donations were sent to World Service and Region 7. Ending balance was \$24,817.37.

Oasis: Jeff reported that the latest issue of the Oasis is on the front of the NJIOA website and copies have been sent to the in-person meetings. The theme of the next issue is, Who is your Ebbie? Who 12-Stepped You? Contributions are due by September 15.

Public Information: Jeff reported there was an OA public information table at the May conference of the NJ Mental Health Association in Asbury Park. It was a big success, very well attended and many asked for literature.

Website: Susan reported all was going well; Patrick is making changes within two to three days.

Literature/Scholarship: Susan said there was only one request for a Big Book. She asked that members spread the information about the availability of free Big Book or OA Step book at the meetings they attend.

Zoom: Judy noted that there are just two members on the committee and more are needed, the more volunteers, the less work. Over the year there are 12 intergroup meetings to be recorded and people to be admitted to the meeting. Contact Judy: Zoom@njioa.org

Region 7: Loraine reminded members that the registration is open for the 2026 Convention in Bethesda, MD, October 23-25. Committees are busy preparing for a weekend of connection and fellowship. The theme is: I Put My Hand In Yours; Welcome Home!

Communications: Susan S reported she sent messages to the in-person meeting contacts to pass on important information from intergroup.

Future Events:

Saturday, 6/20: Half-day in-person workshop, Steps 1,2,3 & The Tools, 9am-12pm, The Dorothy B. Kraft Center, Paramus NJ

Monday, 7/20, OA Fellowship Luncheon, 12:00 pm, Nevada Diner, Bloomfield, NJ; reserve a spot by contacting Jeff.

Items Not on Agenda:

- Mary Jeanne stated she is starting a newcomers meeting on June 20 at St. Andrew's in New Providence. She has purchased five AA Big Books and requested the \$50.00 NJIOA gives as a start-up balance for new meetings. **Agreed:** Jeff will send a check for \$50.00 to Mary Jeanne.
- Susan S noted that there are many in-person new meetings and suggested we print business cards with NJIOA contact information that could be handed out. They would be an easily available information. **Agreed:** This will be an item on the July agenda.

OLD BUSINESS

Star Lake: Judy stated the committee was continuing to investigate the cost of an in-person weekend retreat at Star Lake Lodge. The following was noted:

- The earliest date would be the end of 2027 or beginning of 2028.
- OA will be the only event during the weekend due to our food requirements which are complicated.
- The cost of a bed will be higher than the \$250.00 charged in 2020; cost of that weekend was \$18,000.
- There is a minimum commitment for 60 people.
- Many new volunteers will be needed to plan and be available during the weekend.
- We have electronic registration/payment experience.
- When the Star Lake retreat was an annual event, we had a rolling deposit of \$4,000. After Covid, the deposit was returned. Funding an up-front deposit will be a committee and budget decision.
- The 2026 and 2027 proposed budgets have income line items for Zoom Winter Retreats.

Vote: We changed the budget calendar from January to December to July to June.

Motion to change: Mark Second: Barbara Approved with 2 abstentions

2027 Proposed Budget: A copy of the proposed budget was emailed to the intergroup members prior to the meeting. It was prepared by the committee: Mark, Judy, Fran and Jeff. Discussion ensued:

- A comment was made that reducing \$2,000 from the public information budget leaves only \$1,000 which will restrict future plans. Refunds for expenses will have to be pursued from Region 7 and World Service along with careful planning to stay within the new amount.
 - **Response:** Past spending was less than \$1,300 and the projection for 2027 is for not more than \$1,500. It was noted that more funds could be requested if a need arises.

- Questions were raised about printing and mailing copies of the Oasis to in-person meetings. That practice was stopped because of the cost. Are too many copies being printed? Are they being read and shared? Is the \$3,000 cost justified?
 - **Agreed:** The budget committee will discuss this with Mary Ann.
- Question regarding the 40% contributions to World Service and Region 7 that is in our by-laws.
 - **Response:** The percentages are flexible and the amount of the contributions is based on first meeting the needs of our intergroup. We are required to maintain a prudent reserve and cover our expenses.

Meeting closed with the OA Promise

Motion to close the meeting

Motion: Mark Second: Judy

Next Meeting: 7:30 pm, Thursday, July 9

Respectfully submitted,
Loraine B, Recording Secretary