

SNI Minutes July 3, 2021

The regular meeting of the Suburban North Intergroup (SNI) was held on Saturday, July 3, 2021 via Zoom.

SNI Mission Statement:

“To welcome, inspire, strengthen and grow the fellowship of OA”

OPENING - Acting Chair Wanda C. opened the meeting at approximately 10:10 a.m. with the Serenity Prayer.

Those Present Included:

- Vice Chair/Acting Chair-Wanda C. (also Region 5 Representative and World Service Business Conference Delegate)
- Treasurer – Neal M.

Intergroup Representatives:

- Monday & Thursday 10 am Northbrook – Laural R.
- Wednesday 9:30 am Schaumburg – June L. (also Designated Downloader)
- Thursday 12 Noon Crystal Lake – Carol G.
- Saturday 10 am Crystal Lake – Christine G.
- **(Need information)** – Lauryl B.

Visitors:

- Region 5 Vice Chair – Deanna B.

-Laural R. read the 12 Steps.

-Lauryl read the 12 Traditions.

-Neal reflected on Tradition 7.

-June read the long version of Concept 7- Balance.

-Wanda C. read the SNI Standing Rules, which were approved as read.

Agenda Changes:

- Penny's Report on the Zoom account purchase eliminated – Penny not present.
- The entire “Intergroup Renewal Goals” section (with John C.) was eliminated, to give SNI members more time to study the list of websites that Barb K. suggested we look at. In viewing the suggest websites, SNI members need to 1) look at other intergroup's goals and 2) Check out the design of the websites (how they are set up, what's included on the website, what you like/dislike). This will be the focus of our August meeting.
- Under Smart Goals Template and writing a 2nd goal, decided we needed to clarify our first goal, since there was some discussion as to what exactly we decided our first goal should be.

June 5, 2021 Minutes – Additions/Changes

- Correction under Treasurer's Report: (Neal M.) “Neal gave a report, which included all transactions up to that date.” (Correction was approved.)

- There was a discussion over a paragraph under the “Intergroup Renewal Survey Results/Report.” We debated the third paragraph and its meaning. Ultimately, we concluded that the wording of the paragraph should remain as is. The sentence that follows the question “What can be SNI goals?” answers the question, by suggesting that members look at other intergroup’s websites to see what goals they have established. (No changes were made.)
- Minutes were approved with the correction under the “Treasurer’s Report.”

REPORTS, QUESTIONS/CLARIFICATIONS

Reports from the Chair, Region 5 Representative and Designated Downloader were sent out before the meeting. Updates and other reports are listed here.

Designated Download (June L) –

- See highlights from the WSO June News Bulletin.
- The 2021 World Service Convention August 26-28-registration deadline-July 30th.
- *OA Handbook for Members, Groups, and Service Bodies: Recovery Opportunities* is now exclusively an e-Book.
- Correction: The Region 5 Summer Conference is NOT on July 12, but on July 17 and will be held from 8 a.m. to Noon CDT.

Vice Chair’s Report (Wanda C.)

- Sent members an e-mail with a list of websites (from Barb K.). Members need to take a good hard look at these websites. 1) Look at the intergroups’ goals. This will help us in deciding what our goals might be. 2) Look at the intergroups’ websites-what do you like/dislike? What needs to be included/not included? 3) **Be ready to answer these questions – How will having our own website really help our SNI group? Do we even need a website?** 4) Contact some of the groups about the usefulness of their website?
- Attended “Bylaws Are My Friend” zoom event. SNI needs to consider the following: 1) Do our bylaws reflect our policies and procedures (or vice versa)? 2) In the future, SNI will need to specifically look at each of our bylaws and make sure each one DOES reflect our policies and procedures.

Treasurer’s Report (Neal)

- No changes in the monthly report.
- New report will reflect one deposit and one book sale for \$15.
- Received an e-mail from Dana T. (cc. Laura B) requesting a refund to CSSI (Chicago South Suburban Intergroup). SNI has been holding in our reserve CCSI’s money from their “Always Spring Retreat Fund.” The total amount held in reserve for 2022 was 935.00. Out of that total, 688.00 was donated to scholarship funds and 247.00 CCSI group treasurer. Neal will be writing CCSI a check and withdrawing that money from SNI’s reserve.
- SNI is welcome to return to face-to-face meetings at the Youth Center. We need to consider this at our August meeting.

- Neal reminded Deanna B. and Wanda C. that they needed to set up a date/time when they can go to the bank to make sure the names on the accounts are current. Neal offered to go with them at the agreed-upon date/time.

Region 5 Update (Deanna)

- The 2022 Region 5 Convention will be held in the Chicagoland area. Normally, all the area IGs are involved in hosting. SNI has assisted in the past and will again be one of the intergroups hosting this event.
- Volunteers are needed. Please contact Deanna for more information and to volunteer.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Call for nominations to fill open positions-SNI Chair, Recording Sec'y, Committee Chairs
– No Discussion; Tabled to August Meeting

Discuss Representatives to Region 5 and Delegates to WSBC
-No Discussion; Tabled to August Meeting

Meeting List and Changes

- -Maureen was not present to give a formal report.
- -Deanna B. did speak with Maureen who is working with Ricky in SNI's Ring Center. Because so many meetings are in a state of flux (moving to face-to-face or a hybrid format), the Meeting List will NOT be completely updated until August.
- -Reminder: Meetings changing their format MUST 1) Contact Ring Central and leave a message with the new information and 2) Contact oa.org and fill out the form to change meeting formats.

Zoom Account Purchase Report

- -Penny was NOT present to give a formal report.
- -Neal reported that he did speak with Penny. Penny will purchase the Zoom Account and then be reimbursed by SNI.
- -There is no information on whether Penny has purchased the account at this point.
- -Deanna B. suggested to Penny in a phone conversation that she contact Linda J. regarding how her OA Zoom account was purchased; however, Linda J. is not available until after July 15.
- -Deanna B. suggested that Penny go ahead and purchase the account, listing SNI as the owner on the account with Penny as the contact.
- -Summary: SNI has approved the purchase of the account. At this point, we do NOT have confirmation that the account has been purchased.

Winging It

- -Penny was not present to give a formal report.
- -Penny and Sue N. are planning on a Fall issue.

SNI Website

- Refer to Vice Chair/Acting Chair report on what each SNI Rep needs to do before our August Meeting.
- After investigating the other intergroup websites, reps need to be prepared to specifically discuss: 1) Whether or not we want our own website. At our August Meeting we will be having a discussion with John C. He will answer questions (for example, how will people find our website?) and help guide our decision. 2) If we do decide to move forward on having our own website, be prepared to discuss the specifics of what should be included on the website.
- Here are two other considerations we discussed: 1) Our website should NOT duplicate what Region 5 and OA has/does. 2) A main purpose of our website needs to be helping Newcomers and including links for easy access to OA information.

INTERGROUP RENEWAL GOALS

Goal #1 – “To increase awareness of SNI and OA.”

- Because there was much confusion regarding the specifics on Goal #1, SNI decided, after much discussion, to reconsider and rewrite our Goal #1. (*Note: There was no specific record of Goal #1 in the June Minutes that might have clarified the confusion on this issue.*)
- Goal #1 was a direct result of the SNI Renewal Survey results. The number one concern – 47% of the respondents thought SNI needed to get the word out that we exist. Goal #1 acknowledges this concern.

Action Steps (How We Will Achieve the Goal) for Goal #1

1. Website Discussion and Investigation
2. Meeting List Updated Regularly
3. Winging It! (Newsletter) – published a minimum of twice/yearly.
4. Increased representation of Meeting Groups in SNI – Current SNI Reps will commit to attend meetings without reps. During “announcements”, SNI reps will introduce themselves, briefly outline what SNI is and does, encourage the meeting group to get involved by sending a rep to SNI monthly meetings. They will also leave their contact information in case members have any questions.

Other goals considered:

- A second goal - “**To increase membership of SNI and OA**” was discussed, but not formally approved.
- Action Step #4 (as listed above) also fits as an action step under this second goal. There is some overlap that will need to be discussed further and refined at our next meeting.
- Special Note: *When formulating our goals, SNI needs to utilize the “Smart Goals Template.”*

WRAP UP

- Individual reps are encouraged to bring back information to their groups.
- Wanda C. concluded the meeting with *The Serenity Prayer*.