

SNI Meeting Minutes: Saturday, September 4, 2021.

SNI Mission Statement: “To welcome, inspire, strengthen and grow the fellowship of OA”

OPENING: The regular meeting of Suburban North Intergroup (SNI) was held on Saturday September 4, 2021 via Zoom. Acting Chair Wanda C. opened the meeting at 10:01 am with the Serenity Prayer.

Present Were:

Vice Chair and Acting Chair: Wanda C. (also Region 5 [R5] Representative and World Service Business Conference [WSBC] Delegate);

Treasurer: Neal M.;

Acting Recording Secretary: Maureen R. (also keeper of Meeting/Sponsorship/Speaker Lists)

Intergroup Representatives (IRs):

Wednesday 9:30 am Schaumburg: June L. (also Designated Downloader)

Wednesday 7 pm Barrington: Lauryl B.

Thursday 12 Noon Crystal Lake: Carol G.

Saturday 8 am Libertyville: Sue G.

Saturday 10 am F2F Crystal Lake: Christine G.

Visitors:

R5 Vice Chair: Deanna B.

Website Developer: John C.

Monday 10:30 am Antioch: Pat G.

Monday 10:30 am Antioch: June Z.

Vernon Hills: Paul A.

-Sue G. read the 12 Steps; Carol G. read the 12 Traditions and also reflected on Tradition 9 Structure; Deanna B. read Concept 8 Ability and Wanda C. read the SNI Standing Rules which were approved as adopted.

-The proposed agenda was accepted as amended. Add: Meeting Bomb incident.

-August 7, 2021 Minutes were approved as written.

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 Downloader: (June L.): -See WSO News Bulletin for August and upcoming Recovery Events in the Downloader Report. -A new *Plan of Eating* pamphlet-OA Bookstore (#144) \$2.00. E-book versions to be available soon.

-Two calls for recovery stories which can be emailed to info@oa.org. The first is for updating a pamphlet where members stories are needed to represent diverse stories in the OA Fellowship. Subject line: ‘Common Solution’ (Submission deadline is October 21st). The second is for a new publication requesting stories from Sponsors. Subject line ‘Sponsorship Story’ (Submission deadline is November 30th).

-Notice to all Groups/Members: OA’s Board of Trustees has issued a letter regarding the screen sharing of OA Literature: “Groups that meet virtually are to immediately stop screen sharing and all other unauthorized reproductions of OA Literature in virtual meetings. Since this issue affects OA as a whole it is not a matter of group conscious.” Please download the letter in its entirety and share it in your groups ASAP.

Region 5: -Freedom from Bondage Blog/Newsletter has new articles on 'How do you best use your Sponsor'; - REMINDER: 2021 R5 Convention October 2-3, 'Many Voices, One Solution' (hosted by Central Ohio Service Intergroup via Zoom)

Events Virtual Region: Sunday, 9/12/21 'The Promises of the Program' 2-3:30 pm CDT; Phone Marathons Monday, 9/6/21 (Labor Day) 'Tradition 7-Responsibility...'; Tuesday, 9/7/21 (Rosh Hashanah) 'Step 9 Spiritual Principal-Love'. **Additional Events:** Sunday, 9/5 'Batten Down the Hatches...' 3-6 pm CDT; Monday, 9/6 'Staying Abstinent...' 5 am-11 pm CDT; Monday, 9/6/21 MAI 'Labor of Love' 10 am-12:00 noon CDT; Thursday, 9/9/21 'Sponsorship Panel: How do I Get a Sponsor?' 6 pm-7 pm CDT.

Vice Chair Report/Acting Chair Report: (Wanda C.) -Due to the 2021 R5 Convention occurring on the same weekend as the next SNI Meeting, discussion held to move the October 2nd SNI Meeting date. Majority agreed the second Saturday in October (10/9) was a good alternative. This change/notice will be E-blasted to SNI membership.

-Chicagoland Intergroups will host the 2022 R5 Convention. Even though a year away a beginning plan/goal is to convene at a real venue with hybrid possibilities. The question posed was: Would SNI (representing the membership) like to have the 2022 R5 Convention over the Labor Day Weekend? Motion made and seconded as to those who would versus those who would not like the Labor Day Weekend as a possible time for the Convention to be held. Majority voted against (with one abstention) the 2022 R5 Convention be held over Labor Day Weekend.

Treasurer Report: (Neal M.) Neal waived his report...nothing new for the month. SNI remains financially solvent.

Meeting Bomb: Monday 10:30 am Antioch Zoom Meeting (Pat G. and June Z.) Pat reported when a larger than normal number of people joined their meeting recently some acted quite inappropriately. Several (5) people had to be removed. This resulted in members feeling upset and that a violation of trust occurred. Pat (and other members) reached out to talk about this disturbing occurrence. But, today wanted input and recommendations as to how groups can better prepare for these sorts of security breaches.

Various suggestions followed:

- 1.) Assign a host and/or cohost to enable the waiting room to prescreen, disable the Chat Room, block video and screen share and/or shut people out of a meeting, if necessary;
 - 2.) Change the password of the meeting and/or remove it from the Public SNI Meeting List, then request people call the group Contact Person for the password;
 - 3.) To protect personal information further, full name, telephone numbers, or email addresses not be put in the Chat Room (Some zoom subscriptions provide Advanced Chat Encryption);
 - 4.) Convene a group conscious after the incident to help support members with a 'heart-to-heart' review of what happened.
 - 5.) Groups may need to remind members to use precautions about what is shared in Zoom meetings . It is a public forum...a part of every day life in today's virtual world;
 - 6.) It may be a comfort to know that once a person is removed from a meeting they are unable to return.
- It was mentioned that Joel I. (R5 Secretary) has a list of Security Precautions for Zoom meetings. Wanda said she will secure a copy for SNI.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

October ELECTIONS: (Wanda C.) The Nominating Committee, Wanda C. (Chair), Maureen R. and Christine G. reviewed SNI Policy and Procedures Manual of position descriptions then developed a partial list of willing individuals to stand in nomination for the positions. SNI voting Reps have to accept any nominations before a 'slate' is determined. SNI Chair, Vice Chair, Recording Secretary, Corresponding

Secretary plus R5 Representatives (1 R5 Rep for every ten (10) groups...registered with WSO), a possible Alternate R5 Representative and WSBC Delegates will be voted upon. Committee Chair positions are open and appointed by the SNI Chair.

SNI Meeting List: (Maureen R.) Currently there are sixteen (16) Zoom groups, seven (7) face-to-face meetings, six (6) hybrid meetings and one (1) inactive group. Thus, there is a total of twenty nine (29) active SNI groups and one (1) inactive group. SNI lost six (6) groups and all have been removed from the OA Website. There were new groups added (with new group numbers assigned) and separation of groups that meet face-to-face from those meeting via Zoom. The 8/31/21 most updated SNI Meeting List has been forwarded to the R5 Website for posting.

[Notify Ricki G. at Ring Central (855) 632-6039 of group changes, then oa.org. Contact Maureen R., at SNI meeting and/or through Ring Central to be placed on the SNI Sponsorship/Speaker List or to refer people seeking a Sponsor or Speakers].

SNI ZOOM Account: (Penny N.) In Penny's absence Maureen R. reported Penny volunteered (at August SNI meeting) to use her personal Zoom account for SNI purposes with the annual account cost reimbursed by SNI. The Committee considered utilizing the SNI Zoom account for Board Business Meetings, various Committee Meetings, Recovery Events and those Zoom Meetings unable to afford the yearly Zoom subscription fee.

Continuing goal is to notify all group Contact Persons of what purposes the SNI Zoom account will be used for and to inquire if particular groups would need support of the SNI Zoom account. Each group can then conduct a group conscious as to what they decide.

Committee Reports:

Winging It Newsletter: (Penny N., Chair) No Report. Penny absent.

Finance Committee: (Neal M., Chair). No Report.

TSW Committee: (Chair Open for Fall Event). The next Recovery Event may choose a title/focus from the top topics of interest shown in the Intergroup Renewal Survey results. They were: Using the OA Tools (SNI May, 2021 Recovery Event was on the OA Tools), Body Image, A Plan of Eating and Sponsorship. Mention made to use the Twelve-Step-Within Handbook for a Sponsorship Event. Another suggestion was to do a Recovery Event on publicizing OA. Further discussion to continue.

PI/PO Website Ad Hoc Committee: (Carol G. and John C.). Progress report in developing the SNI Website was: -The Ad Hoc Committee received approval to use the OA Logo for the Website. Plan is to have a video available on the top of the first page as well as the SNI Meeting List.

-John has not developed the Beta Site as need name for the Domain first. The Committee came up with 'OACHgSNI.org' and cited the reasoning behind the name. The Website can purchase Metadata software where key words can be included in the search engine...e.g. the spelling of OA, other Recovery words and the Zip Codes in SNI's service area, etc. Motion made and seconded to have Domain Name 'OACHgSNI.org' which met unanimous approval.

-Second item of business was approval of pricing packages for the Domain. BlueHost.com had several packages with shared hosting like the Basic, Plus, Choice Plus and Pro Plans. John recommended the Basic Package for 36 months @approximately \$2.95/month the first year and the regular price of approximately \$8.99/month the remaining two years. After discussion, motion made and seconded to purchase the Basic Plan for three years which passed. John further recommended SNI use the software

'Word Press' as it is simple to operate and will maintain the most important goal of 'sustainability' for the Website.

-Ad Hoc Committee will continue to develop what text will be in the SNI Section, like: 1.) What is SNI?; 2.) How does SNI serve its area meetings/groups?; 3.) How can individuals, meetings/groups get involved in SNI? (Why should they want to?).

-The Committee will also determine what's included in the 'drop down' menu/columns. For example: under 'Documents' place '*Winging It*' Newsletter, SNI Meeting Minutes and Treasurer's Report; under 'Meetings' post SNI Meeting List, etc. and under 'New' post Flyers for Recovery Events, monthly Downloader Report and monthly E-blast.

Bylaws Committee: Chair Open

WRAP UP:

What to bring back: 1. October SNI Election for Chair, Vice Chair, Recording and Corresponding Secretary positions plus R5 Reps and WSBC Delegates . Nominations will be taken from the floor at that time, too.

2. 2021 R5 Convention October 2-3; New 'Plan of Eating' pamphlet at OA Bookstore.

3. Download in its entirety OA Board of Trustees Letter and read/announce in groups to immediately stop screen sharing and other unauthorized reproductions of OA Literature in virtual meetings.

4. COPY SNI's revised (8/31/21) MEETING LIST for distribution.

Closing: The meeting ended at 12:03 pm with the OA Promise ('I put my hand in yours ...'). NOTE CHANGE OF DATE: The NEXT SNI meeting to be held via Zoom (ID: 879 0524 7368, PW: SNI) Saturday **October 9, 2021** from 10 am to 12 noon.

Respectively submitted,
Maureen R.
Acting Recording Secretary.