

SNI Meeting Minutes: Saturday, November 6, 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 November 6, 2021, via Zoom. Chair Wanda C. opened the meeting at 10:04 am with The Serenity Prayer.

**Present Were:**

- Chair: Wanda C. (also Region 5 Representative and World Service Business Conference Delegate)
- Treasurer: Neal M.
- Recording Secretary: Laural R.
- Corresponding Secretary: Maureen R. (Also, keeper of Meeting/Sponsorship/Speaker Lists)

**Intergroup Representatives (IRs):**

- Wednesday 9:30 am Schaumburg: June L. (also Designated Downloader)
- Friday, 9 am Elgin: Darlette P.
- Friday, 7:30 pm Grayslake: Paul A.
- Saturday, 8 am Libertyville: Sue G.

**Visitors:**

- R5 Vice Chair: Deanna B.
- Website Developer: John C.
- Saturday, 8 am Libertyville: Jen N.

-Lauryl B. read the 12 Steps; Neal read the 12 Traditions and reflected on the meaning of Tradition 11; June L. read Concept 11 (Humility) and Wanda C. read the SNI Standing Rules which were approved as read.

-The proposed agenda was discussed, then accepted. Wanda C. will send Laural R. a document with the three closing prayer choices to be included in future eblasts.

- October 9, 2021 Minutes were approved as written.

**REPORTS, QUESTIONS/CLARIFICATIONS:** Reports from the Chair, Region 5 Representative and Designated Downloader sent out before the meeting. Updates and other reports are listed here.

**Designated Downloader:** (June L.)

- New Region 8 Trustee, Katrina S., appointed by board. Formally served as Region 8 chair.
- Please encourage members to fill out the Survey to Improve Sponsorship Issues by the Board Twelfth Step Within Committee. Go to <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/TSWC21>
- Look at the highlights of “A Step Ahead” – Fourth Quarter. <https://oa.org/app/uploads/2021/10/a-step-ahead-fourth-quarter-2021.pdf>
- All meeting formats have been updated with WSBC 2021. Available for free downloads. Go to <https://oa.org/document-library> .
- Sponsor stories are always needed (250-300 words) for “A Step Ahead”. Due by November 30.
- NEXT WORLD SERVICE CONVENTION is scheduled for August 21-23, 2025 in Orlando, FL.

- IDEA (International Day Experiencing Abstinence) is scheduled for November 19-21. There is a lot happening. Go to <https://oa.org/document-library> for resources.
- Check out Region 5's Freedom from Bondage Blog/Newsletter for new articles.
- New Tools Pamphlet available from [www.oa.org](http://www.oa.org) for \$1.00. Can be purchased for electronic display. Can also get a free download of the abridged form of the Tools Pamphlet. Go to [www.oa.org/documentslibrary](http://www.oa.org/documentslibrary) and click on "tools".
- [www.oa.milwaukee.org](http://www.oa.milwaukee.org) is sponsoring an "Abstinence Workshop on Saturday, November 20. (Note: Keep a lookout for their possible Thanksgiving event.)

**Chair Report:** (Wanda C.) Attended the R5 Assembly, along with Carolyn S. and Christine G. A formal report will be included in the December eblast.

**Vice Chair Report:** (Carolyn S.) – No Report

**Treasurer Report:** (Neal M.)

- Corrections to Monthly Report: Ending Check Register Balance \$6, 639.01 and Bank Balance \$11,139.01.
- There's been little activity in the past month. Donations are down by approximately \$2,000 for the year. However, the final SNI end-of-the-year report will still be in the black.
- SNI is over our prudent reserve of \$4,500. However, funds will be needed in the future. For example, the storage facility fee (\$450.-\$500.) is due in February.
- SNI will send 100% of our profits for the year to WSO and R5 (60-40 split) at the end of the year. Note: The SNI budget normally allots a donation of \$500 for the WSO and \$300 for Region 5.
- At this point in time, Neal does not want to handle electronic donations; only those by mail.
- A new meeting will be set up in January 2022 in Norridge. A request was made for a copy of SNI's Insurance Certificate. Neal sent out the certificate, making it clear that this new meeting must register with OA and SNI..
- Neal also sent out a copy of SNI's Insurance Certificate to the Niles Monday night meeting. This is requested each year. Note: This meeting is actively seeking a new meeting site. The church where they were meeting (Niles Community Church) merged with another church, but the church building is up for sale.

**Recording Secretary Report:** (Laural R.)

- Transition is still in process.
- Would like to have full names of everyone on the eblast list, not just emails. Please send to [lareinhart@comcast.net](mailto:lareinhart@comcast.net).

**Volunteer Corresponding Secretary Report:** (Maureen R.)

**Meeting List Updates:** Putting together a concise list of Meetings/Meeting Contacts/Meeting IG Reps

- Monday 10 a.m. Northbrook: Moved to Zoom only
- Monday 7 p.m. Niles Community Church: Actively looking for a new meeting site.
- Thursday, 7 p.m. St. Giles/Northbrook - inactive
- New meeting in process of being added in Norridge for January 2022

**Meeting List Statistics:**

-28 active meeting groups; 1 inactive; 1 cancelled (Thursday, Northbrook 7 p.m.) 1 new (beginning January 2022)

- 17 are Zoom only; 5 Hybrid; 6 Face-to-Face
- 12 Intergroup Reps (Note: Some reps do multiple meetings. Those reps should encourage others to step up, so SNI has more reps attending our meetings.)
- 9 meeting groups still need Intergroup Reps. Maureen will be contacting these groups, encouraging them to send a rep to SNI.
- Maureen is in the process of creating a list of meeting reps and contact people, including names, email addresses and telephone numbers.

### **Zoom Report:** (Maureen R.)

- Penny is exploring purchasing a business Zoom meetings account. Zoom account must be in someone's name. SNI needs to discuss whether that should be a board member.
- Zoom contract coupons are available if you renew every year. Penny will be investigating this possibility. Coupon can be put on automatic renewal with zoom.
- Must have SNI's commitment for one zoom account a year.
- Need a permanent Zoom number for our account. At this time, two meeting groups have indicated that they want their Zoom account transferred over to our SNI account.
- Investigating if a business Zoom account allows a group to have two meetings simultaneously. (Note: It's Deanna's understanding from R5 investigations that a Zoom Business Account only allows one meeting per hour.)
- If a Zoom Business Account is purchased, Zoom will train us on its operation.
- An SNI Zoom account will be used for Board and Committee Meetings, Recovery Events and Workshops, and any other SNI needed business.
- The SNI Zoom account would be set up so meetings can be run automatically.
- Penny should have more specific information for SNI before Thanksgiving.

### **Number of R5 Reps Allowed SNI:**

- Allowed one rep for every ten groups
- 28 meeting groups qualifies SNI for three reps, because reps are counted on a portion of ten. For example, 20 meetings groups=2 reps, but 21 meetings groups=3 reps.

### **Winging It:** (Penny)

- Penny has formally submitted her letter of resignation, as of November 5, 2021.
- A new editor is needed for Winging It.

### **2022 Convention:**

- The convention will be held virtually the weekend of September 16-18, 2022. (It will not be only one day, but probably will also not be three days.)
- Theme of Convention is "Let Our Light Shine." (May be changed to "Letting Our Light Shine".)
- SNI will be the Huggers/Greeters and be responsible for Hospitality. This entails some or all of the following: 1) Prior to the first meeting begins greet attendees and answer any of their questions. 2) Be in charge of the "breaks" (times between speakers). This means organizing & implementing the "activities" between speakers. For example, a short meditation, dance break, discuss "mini-topics" of interest or play an "OA Game" of some kind.
- The following SNI members have volunteered to help coordinate: Wanda C., Deanna, Lauryl B., Maureen R., along with Laurie & Phil from another IG. (Note: Know that others are interested. Wanda will reach out to those people.)
- Need a Chair and Secretary for this organizational group to keep everyone informed.

### **Intergroup Renewal Goals:**

## **Website Report (John C.)**

- Full website URL is <https://oachicagosni.org>.
  - The first stage of set up is complete: 1) Implemented the OA hope theme, using a personal graphic; 2) Posted content provided by the website committee, completed except for “events & programs” and “other resources”; 3) Posted meeting list PDF; 4) Registered with Google listings, will show up some time after 11/7/2.
  - NOTE: The page structure and preliminary content are established, but in NO way does this represent the finished site. Everything is flexible.
  - Next Stages include: 1) Implement the Events plugin (calendar); 2) Add some graphics to existing pages; 3) Decide what to put in sidebar and footers; 4) Revise content for SEO (search engine optimization) to encourage a better listing of the site; 5) Enable approved users to manage some content and 6) Recruit back up website administration.
- Note: If someone is interested, please contact John C.

### Website Questions/Comments from SNI

- Neal would like more information on the “Donate Button” so he knows what to bring to the bank to ensure how donations can be made through an electronic link on the website.
- SNI will need to discuss what specific SNI documents should or should not be posted on the site. The advantage to posting documents is that they can be kept current. John C. emphasized that any documents posted would be “sanitized” for posting to keep confidential SNI material confidential.
- R5 has a section for SNI on their website. John C. will check into this to see what is involved.
- Concerns were voiced about copyrighted materials. John C. as website administrator oversees this and makes sure that all materials are handled correctly. Note: Barbara from Region 5 can be a resource for all copyright provisions.

## **Smart Goals and Second Goal:**

- One of SNI’s goals was to have two workshops per year.

## **Winter Workshop – tabled until December Meeting**

### **Senior Health Fair:**

- Scheduled for January 2022. Will be held in-person.
- Deanna sent the informational flyer to Maureen R. and Carol G.
- Deanna agreed to contact the Senior Platinum Adventure person to get the name of the contact person for this event.
- Must register ASAP to get a booth, so we can be involved.
- Fair located on northwest side of Chicago and Harwood Heights.
- Deanna and Maureen will check into all of this for more specific information.

### **Region 5 Service Workshops:**

- Suggested SNI do one again; it’s been a few years.
- Although it was not very successful, might be time to try again.
- No one specifically offered to take charge of this endeavor.

## **Wrap Up:**

**What to bring back:** 1) Website- brand new, not fully loaded; more to do, but exciting. 2) Treasurer's Report indicated that donations to SNI are down. Go to our new website and click on the donate button. 3) Highlight the Designated Downloader's Report (Refer back to June L.'s Report). 4) Put out the call for a new Winging It editor. (Abstinence requirement-6 months)

**Closing:** The meeting ended at 12:02 p.m. with the 3<sup>rd</sup> Step Prayer. The NEXT SNI MEETING to be held via Zoom (ID: 879 9479 4888, PW: SNI) Saturday, December 4, 2021, from 10 am to 12 noon.

Respectively submitted,  
Laural R.  
Recording Secretary