

## SNI Meeting Minutes: Saturday, January 8, 2022.

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

**OPENING:** The regular meeting of the Suburban North Intergroup (SNI) was held on Saturday, January 8, 2022, via Zoom. Chair Wanda C. opened the meeting at 10:01 am with The Serenity Prayer.

### Present Were:

- Chair: Wanda C.
- Vice Chair: Carolyn S.
- Treasurer: Neal M.
- Recording Secretary: Laural R.
- Acting Corresponding Secretary: Maureen R. (Also, keeper of the Meeting and Sponsorships Lists)

### Intergroup Representatives (IRs):

- Sunday 10am Highland Park: Jennifer S.
- Sunday Heritage Woods: Darlette P.
- Wednesday 9:30 am Schaumburg: June L. (also Designated Downloader)
- Wednesday 7 pm Barrington: Lauryl B.
- Thursday 12 N Crystal Lake: Carol G.
- Friday 7:30 pm Grayslake: Paul A.
- Saturday 10 am: Christine G.

### Visitor:

- R5 Vice Chair: Deanna B.

-Neal M. read the 12 Steps; June L. read the 12 Traditions; Neal M. reflected on the Tradition of the Month (Tradition 1-Unity) and June L. read the short version of the month's concept (Concept 1-Unity, our collective conscience)

-The proposed agenda stood with only one deletion. The Health Fair listed under “Intergroup Renewal Goals” was discussed and tabled until January 2023 as recorded in the December 2021 Minutes.

-Wanda C. read the Standing Rules, which were adopted.

-December 4, 2021, Minutes were approved with one change. All OA literature titles should be recorded in italics. Laural R. will correct this inconsistency, before the December Minutes are posted on the SNI website.

**REPORTS, QUESTIONS/CLARIFICATIONS:** Reports from the Designated Downloader, Acting Corresponding Secretary and the Website Committee were sent out before the meeting. Updates and other reports are listed here.

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

- WSBC 2022: “We Can Do Together What We Could Never Do Alone” Apr. 27-30; 1<sup>st</sup> hybrid conference; Agenda Questionnaire regarding New Business Motions and Bylaw Amendments needs to be shared with each meeting group in preparation for SNI’s February 5 discussion/vote. Representatives should review this information in its entirety. In addition to the actual questionnaire, two links are important: <https://oa.org/app/uploads/2021/12/new-business-motions-wsbc-2022.pdf> and <https://oa.org/app/uploads/2021/12/by-laws-amendments-wsbc-2022.pdf>
- Be sure that your OA meeting group’s information is correct. Must contact WSO directly, especially if you are changing your meeting format (i.e.-from face-to-face to hybrid or hybrid to zoom only).
- *Lifeline* returns in February as *Lifeline: Stories of Recovery* blog.
- Celebrate OA’s Birthday January 21-23. LA Intergroup is hosting a virtual party on Friday, January 14 - Sunday, January 16 - “Window of Opportunity”. Registration: \$30. + \$2.64 fee. <https://www.oalaig.org/oa-birthday-party/>
- Phone Marathons are available every hour from 7 am to 11 pm (CST). Join on Saturday, February 15<sup>th</sup> for an OA Birthday Phone Marathon. Call 712-432-5200 (PIN: 4285115#).
- Public information posters are available. Download & print for free at <https://oa.org/document-library/> (under category PI Posters) or purchase professionally printed at [www.bookstore.oa.org](http://www.bookstore.oa.org)

### **Chair Report: Wanda C.**

#### Zoom

- The Zoom Committee includes Maureen R. and Penny N., who after purchasing the account, will set up the SNI Monthly Meetings, SNI Committee Meetings (as needed) and possibly the meetings for groups unable to set up their own account.
- The Zoom Committee’s immediate tasks are to explore the various zoom programs available and buy an account with SNI as purchaser.
- SNI has authorized the purchase a Zoom account using the SNI Credit Card. Wanda C. will take care of purchasing the account.

#### WSBC Agenda Questionnaire

- The purpose of this annual questionnaire is to give every member of OA a voice in what will be discussed at the World Service Business Conference (WSBC) in April 2022.
- SNI Reps will take the WSBC Agenda Questionnaire back to their meeting groups for consideration. OA members in each meeting group will have the opportunity to vote on whether the suggested policy and bylaw changes should be put on the agenda and discussed at the WSBC. Members simply vote “yes” or “no”. (“Yes” indicates that the proposed policy or bylaw change should be put on

the agenda and discussed. “No” indicates that the item should not be put on the agenda.)

- SNI reps need to discuss the WSBC Agenda Questionnaire during January. The results of meeting group votes will be brought back to the February 5<sup>th</sup> SNI Meeting.
- It is recommended that reps use the short version of the questionnaire in their meeting groups. Furthermore, reps should have read the long version and have it readily available for reference when questions are asked.
- Important to note is that these agenda items will not be put on the WSBC agenda, unless 50% of the intergroups and service boards reporting their results have voted “yes”.
- Comments DO make a difference, so please write down any comments from OA members.
- If your meeting group does not seem interested, remind them 1) OA is a program of action. Voting on the agenda items is a way to take action and have a direct voice in determining future policies and bylaws of OA. 2) OA is a democratic organization. It's every member's responsibility to take part in this process. 3) Read the Instructions (cover page) of the Long Version of the WSBC Agenda Questionnaire. The instructions clearly state why this process is important. It is worth sharing with your meeting group.

#### Something to Consider

- If there is anything that SNI reps want to change about the format of our SNI Meetings, email Wanda C.
- These suggested changes will be brought back to the entire SNI group for consideration.

#### **Vice Chair: Carolyn S. (No Formal Report)**

#### **Treasurer Report: Neal M. (No Formal Report)**

- Neal M. explained that he is getting the report procedures back to what SNI Bylaws require. The Treasurer Report that is considered at an SNI meeting is supposed to be the report from the month prior to the previous meeting. For example, at today's SNI meeting, the November Treasurer Report is presented. (That report was presented at our December meeting.)
- Neal M. did “unofficially” report that SNI contributed \$1,287 to WSO and \$858 to Region 5 for a total contribution of \$2,145, which is a little more than 100% of SNI's net income, minus our reserve.
- For 2021, SNI's net income was \$2,128 minus our expenses. This leaves SNI with two times our reserve. Neal M. suggested that SNI adjust our reserve funds and requested that this issue be put on the agenda of a future meeting.
- Neal M. did report that the Monday evening Niles Meeting is moving to the Morton Grove Community Center and that he has added them to our insurance.

#### **Recording Secretary Report: Laural R. (No Formal Report)**

- Reminded everyone to put their name and meeting group information in the chat, as the formal way of taking attendance.

**Acting Corresponding Secretary Report: Maureen R. (Report was sent out ahead of the meeting. What follows are changes/additions/corrections to the report.)**

- Twenty-nine (29) SNI groups-two (2) temporarily inactive.
- Correction: Sixteen (16) groups are Zoom, four (4) are Hybrid and seven (7) are face-to-face.
- Correction: Three (3) groups went from hybrid to exclusively Zoom. In addition to Monday 10 am Northbrook and Friday 9 am Elgin Holy Trinity, Saturday 2:30 pm Arlington Heights NW Community Hospital is now Zoom only.
- Monday 7 pm (F2F) Niles Community Church Meeting is moving to the Morton Grove Community Center.
- There are currently thirteen (13) IRs with the addition of Jennifer S. who represents the Sunday Highland Park Meeting. Fourteen (14) groups do not have IRs.
- The Meeting List changes are fluctuating due to low attendance at meetings and the pandemic.
- Need to increase the number of SNI reps. Maureen will continue to do outreach. Suggested that all reps promote being an SNI rep at the other meetings they attend.
- In addition to contacting Ring Central, it is most important to also contact OA.org when a meeting group makes any changes.
- Groups meeting in Evanston are considered a part of our SNI. Currently, there appear to be five (5) groups meeting in the Evanston area. Maureen is working on getting their information.
- St. Marcelline in Schaumburg will continue in a hybrid format and stay in their current location, even though their rent was increased. The group decided that their finances were able to handle the increase.
- A question was raised regarding how inactive meeting groups were counted by OA in terms of our number of allotted SNI Region Representatives. Maureen will contact Barb K. from Region 5 for clarification.

**2022 CONVENTION**

- Deanna B. reported that the Convention Committee needs more volunteers, especially people with technical skills.
- The Convention Committee meets the third Sunday of each month. Anyone interested in service is encouraged to attend.
- SNI is responsible for Convention Hospitality. Responsibilities include: 1) Greeting and answering questions from attendees prior to the start of meetings. 2) Being in charge of organizing and implementing activities, in conjunction with the Convention Entertainment Committee, during breaks between speakers/programs.

- Hospitality Committee members include Maureen R. (Hospitality Committee Recording Secretary), Wanda C., Lauryl B., Carol G., Darlette P., Josephine C., and Deanna B. (Region 5 Vice Chair), with Carolyn S. joining in the Spring. In addition, Lori R. (CHI-WIF) and Phil C. (TPI) have volunteered to run the Zoom technical support.
- The Hospitality Committee needs a Chair.
- Monthly Hospitality Committee meetings will be held once a month either right before or shortly after the full Convention Committee meets on the third Sunday of the month.
- The Hospitality Committee needs to coordinate their programming with the Convention Programming, once Convention Programming is complete.

## INTERGROUP RENEWAL GOALS

Website Committee Report: Laural R. (Report was sent out ahead of the meeting. What follows are additions and suggestions for the website.)

- Laural R. highlighted the Website Committee's decision regarding the five (5) free email accounts associated with our website. Two emails will be listed on the website – [webmaster@oachicagosni.org](mailto:webmaster@oachicagosni.org) (John C.) and [info@oachicagosni.org](mailto:info@oachicagosni.org), which Laural R. will manage. If inquiries become overwhelming, SNI will add three (3) addition emails for the SNI Chair, Vice Chair and Treasurer.
- A suggestion was made to include a resource on “How to Handle Zoom Bombers”. A disclaimer will be put on this resource explaining that our “suggestions” do not represent OA as a whole and are only ideas to help meeting groups having problems with Zoom bombers. Laural R. will put the text together for this resource using information from a past SNI Meeting in which this issue was discussed; Zoom Security information from Linda J. who manages the Zoom account for seven (7) meeting SNI groups; and the “unofficial” suggestions sent from Region 5.
- On the *Winging It* page, it was suggested that past issues be posted. At present, only the last issue of *Winging It* is posted on the website.
- *Winging It* will now be devoted to the sharing of personal stories/reflections by SNI area members. Stories should be submitted to Laural R. at [lareinhart@comcast.net](mailto:lareinhart@comcast.net) for consideration. SNI reps are encouraged to submit a story and promote this at their meeting group and other meetings they attend..

### Smart Goals Template and a 2<sup>nd</sup> Goal

- SNI reps are responsible for spreading the word about SNI.
- When attending other meetings, SNI reps need to talk about SNI, our website, and the need for all meeting groups to have an SNI rep. (Suggested that this be done during the “Announcements” section of the meeting.)

### Winter Workshop? *Winging It*?

- Winter Workshop was tabled until the next meeting.

- *Winging It* was discussed as part of the Website Report. (See the Website Report section for this information.)

## **WRAP UP**

### **What to bring back:**

- 1) OA Birthday Celebration – LA Birthday Party (Friday, January 14-Sunday, January 16). Registration \$30 + \$2.64 fee. Go to <https://www.oalaig.org/oa-birthday-party/> for more information and to register.
- 2) WSBC Agenda Questionnaire – what it is and why it's important. Meeting groups need to vote on the suggested policy and bylaw agenda items during the month of January.
- 3) Any meeting group changes must be made by going to the OA website and calling SNI's Ring Central. (Need to do both.)
- 4) Region 5 Convention 2022 Committee needs more people to become involved, especially those with Zoom skills. The committee meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of every month.
- 5) Submit your personal stories and/or reflections on the OA program of recovery, including how you work the program in all situations, as well as your hopes. Send your submissions to Laural Reinhart at [lareinhart@comcast.net](mailto:lareinhart@comcast.net)

**Closing:** The meeting ended at 11:57 am with the 7<sup>th</sup> Step Prayer.

**Next SNI Meeting:** Saturday, February 5<sup>th</sup> from 10 am to 12 noon  
(Zoom Information to follow.)

Respectfully submitted,  
Laural R. Recording Secretary