

SNI Meeting Minutes: Saturday, March 5, 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, March 5, 2022, via Zoom. Chair Wanda C. opened the meeting at 10:07 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 Sponsorship Lists.)

Intergroup Representatives (IRs):

- Monday 6 pm St. Simons, Arlington Heights: Elisa R.
- Wednesday, 9:30 am St. Marcelline, Schaumburg: June L.
- Wednesday, 7 pm Stillwater’s Clubhouse, Barrington: Lauryl B.
- Thursday, 12 pm Crystal Lake: Carol G.
- Friday, 9 am Holy Trinity, Elgin: Darlette P.
- Friday 10 am St. Benedicts Abbey, Antioch: Susan M.
- Friday 7:30 pm St. Andrews, Grayslake: Paul A.
- Saturday 8 am St. Lawrence Episcopal, Libertyville: Sue G.
- Saturday 10 am First Church, Crystal Lake: Christine G.

Visitor:

- SNI Webmaster: John C.

-Paul A. read the 12 Steps; Lauryl B. read the 12 Traditions; Carol G. reflected on the Tradition of the Month (Tradition 3-Identity) and Neal M. read the long version of the month’s concept (Concept 3-Trust).

-The Proposed Agenda had no additions and/or corrections.

-Wanda C. read the Standing Rules, which were adopted. Two questions were raised and resolved. 1) Attendees are allowed to have liquids during the SNI meeting and 2) Documents may be accessed on attendees’ personal screen (i.e.-phone or tablet).

-The February 5, 2022 Minutes were approved with the following caveat. All links included will be reviewed and corrected as needed to resolve any issues with accessing the information.

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

Designated Downloader: (June L.)

Important Addition – Board of Trustees (BOT) Revised Guidelines About Sharing OA Literature Letter. Go to www.oa.org/app/uploads/2022/02/sharing-oa-copyright-material-electronically.pdf

-Please share and/or reprint this letter with your meeting groups.

-It is important that we get out the OA message but we must also protect the copyright of the literature shared.

- “On a videoconferencing platform (Zoom), registered OA groups may screen share or audio share OA-copyright material without written permission. Anything shared must be accompanied by the citation “[Source of material], Copyright Overeaters Anonymous, Inc. All right reserved.”

-In addition to the above link, this letter can also be obtained by going to the oa.org home page and scrolling down to the bottom of the page. Click on “What’s Happening at OA?” Then click on “Recently Posted” where you will see All OA groups: REVISED Guidelines about Screen Sharing OA Literature.

Downloader Highlights:

WSO News Bulletin – February

https://4cbgp.r.ag.d.sendibm3.com/mk/mr/dp0mGxUMbA5qxIoSwAw-A_YA6isv-v9BIIHh79NJPJWaQ14UUKQilpux33j3dDcy17TcAQjon5woWBqqvQQOMa1Asabd0FXm2HiO4_futD4LyB9GmLnAe-dr0XZm1lv1kz1ko25omA

+ Update WSBC 2022: “We Can Do Together What We Could Never Do Alone” - To be held virtually April 22-30; see tentative agenda

<https://oa.org/app/uploads/2022/02/tentative-conference-agenda-wsbc-2022-rev-feb-17.pdf> 3rd Conference e-Documents to be posted March 11 on WSBC web page <https://oa.org/world-service-business-conference/>

+ OA’s 1st audiobook now available! Purchase *Overeaters Anonymous, Third Edition* audiobook from third-party vendors Audible, Amazon, Apple Books (OA receives a royalty share); other OA audiobooks to come - work has started on *The Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions of Overeaters Anonymous, Second Edition*

+ Update *Lifeline* returning as a blog on March 20! Send your recovery-focused story, digital painting, song, video, or any other type of digital media for future publication; see contributor guidelines:

<https://oa.org/app/uploads/2022/01/contributor-guidelines-for-lifeline-stories-of-recovery-blog.pdf> and story submission form: <https://form.jotform.com/220035565825050>

+ Reminder *A Step Ahead* - First Quarter 2022 <https://oa.org/app/uploads/2022/01/a-step-ahead-first-quarter-2022.pdf>

+ Reminder Frequently Asked Questions about OA Bylaws document available <https://oa.org/app/uploads/2022/01/faq-frequently-asked-questions-about-oa-bylaws.pdf>

+ Reminder Second call for diverse voices; see flyer <https://oa.org/app/uploads/2022/01/a-common-solution-call-for-stories-flyer-bw.pdf>; story submissions due by April 29

Region 5

Region 5 Spring Assembly March 11-13 on Zoom; visitors welcome - register at <https://oaregion5.regfox.com/region-5-spring-assembly-2022>; see Packet A for agenda & motions

<https://region5oa.org/spring-assembly-2022-packet-a/> and Packet B for officer & committee reports <https://region5oa.org/spring-assembly-2022-packet-b/>

St. Patrick's Day Events

-Step 3 Spiritual Principle – Faith; 3 Guides to Faith: Steps, Traditions and Concepts Phone Marathon. Meetings being held every hour from 7 am to 11 pm (CDT). Meeting ID: 712-432-5200 PIN: 4285115#

-St. Patrick's Day Hol-i-daze Zoom-A-Thon from 5 am to 11 pm (CDT) Zoom ID: 959-959-1828 Password: 718863

Chair Report: Wanda C.

- Region 5 Assembly will be held next weekend (March 11-13). Wanda C., Carolyn S., and Christine G. will be SNI's Representatives. All are welcome to attend as a guest but need to register for the assembly.
- WSBC will be held via Zoom at the end of April (April 22-30).
- Wanda C. is looking forward to when SNI can meet face-to-face, hopefully in the summer. The group felt that our meetings should be hybrid to accommodate everyone's needs regarding COVID.
- Wanda C. inquired whether our meeting space in Buffalo Grove is still available. Neal will reserve our meeting space in Buffalo Grove as soon as SNI makes the decision to return to in-person meetings.

Vice Chair Report: Carolyn S. (No formal report)

- Carolyn S. remarked that she's looking forward to attending the Region 5 Assembly next week.

Treasurer Report: Neal M.

- Both the January 2022 Report and the Budget Year-to-Date Report were screen shared.
- Four (4) donations were received in January.
- Neal M. noted that two item lines were missing from the Budget Report. He will correct this by adding a line for "Reps sent to Region 5" and "Delegates sent to WSBC".

- A question was asked regarding the insurance rider that SNI had obtained for a new meeting that never happened. Neal M. explained that SNI does not pay any extra for a rider. He will call the insurance company and have them remove that rider from our policy.
- Neal M. indicated that the following will be upcoming SNI expenses: 1) Storage Facility (probably due in April) and 2) P.O. Box fee. He noted that the SNI Insurance Policy was paid October 2021.

Recording Secretary/Website Chair Report: Laural R.

- Publicize the SNI website in your meeting groups. (<https://oachicagosni.org>)
- OA has given SNI permission to use the OA logo.
- The ownership of the SNI website domain will be changed from John C. to the SNI Chair (Wanda C.).
- John C. explained that for sustainability purposes the ownership of the SNI website should be in the name of a board member. Private registration was purchased for the website, so it is private. No personal information will be divulged.
- John C. is contacting Deanna for assistance in securing an Assistant Webmaster.
- John C. explained the importance for the webmaster to be generic (not specifically connected to SNI). This helps keep the SNI website sustainable (easy to be passed from one webmaster to the next).

Acting Corresponding Secretary Report: Maureen R.

Meeting List Report:

-There is one change. The Saturday 2:30 pm NW Community Hospital meeting in Arlington Heights will begin meeting face-to-face effective on 3/5/22.

Zoom Report:

-The Zoom account domain owner is to be in the name of a SNI Board member. The domain owner is in Maureen's name (as Acting Corresponding Secretary) which can continue until the position is officially filled.

-Maureen is working on assigning Board Members, the Zoom Committee (Penny N.), etc. to act as cohosts for SNI meetings. Also, she's working on making SNI meetings automatically recorded and making available to membership direct entry into SNI meetings without requiring a Host to let in.

2022 CONVENTION

R5 Convention Hospitality Committee (hereafter HC) Report: Maureen R.

- HC met 2/27/22. Discussed roles and responsibilities of HC members. The HC co-chair position was filled.
- HC suggested and agreed upon ten (10) prioritized time slots including pre-Convention opening/welcome on Sat and Sun mornings (4); Sat am and pm

breaks (4) and Sat lunch hour (2). These outside 'hallway moments' may include HC greeters answering questions/comments, 'directing traffic', energizing attendees with music, and/or other activities to be determined.

- Several clarification questions were posed to the larger R5 Convention Committee in order for the HC to continue planning.
- The Next R5 Convention Committee Meetings (at R5 Spring Assembly) are on Friday, March 11th (evening) and Saturday, March 12th (am). The Committee Report will give their report on Sunday, March 13th (am). The next HC Meeting is scheduled for Sun, March 27th at 1:00 PM.

INTERGROUP RENEWAL GOALS

Tasks to be addressed in the upcoming months:

- 1) Reassess the status of all SNI committees.
- 2) Need for a review of the SNI Bylaws. Per the P&P (p.8), the Vice Chair is to be “an active member of the Bylaws Committee.” During the past number of years, the Bylaws chair has been someone other than the Vice Chair (ie,-another member may have the willingness/leadership skills/bylaws expertise to serve as chair).
- 3) Need to reactivate the PIPO committee so that the message of OA can be carried to all compulsive eaters who still suffer. For example, post OA posters in public spots and plan recovery events.
- 4) Plan an SNI Summer 2022 Recovery Event. (Will discuss at the April SNI Meeting.)

At this point, the group agreed that we would **focus on increasing the number of SNI Reps**. Maureen R. will coordinate this endeavor.

The following meetings do not currently have reps:

1. Sunday 10 a.m. Algonquin Township Bld., (Crystal Lake)
2. Monday-Friday 8 a.m. Daily Check-In Meeting (M-F)
3. Monday 10 a.m. Beth Shalom, Northbrook
4. Monday 7 p.m. Morton Grove Community Church
5. Monday 7 p.m. Monday night Zoom Meeting
6. Wednesday 10 a.m. St. Matthew's Church (Evanston)
7. Wednesday 1 p.m. First Presbyterian Church (Lake Forest)
8. Wednesday 7 p.m. St. Martha School (Morton Grove)
9. Thursday 10 a.m. Beth Shalom, Northbrook
10. Thursday 7 p.m. Niles Family Services (Niles)
11. Saturday 10 a.m. Crystal Lake Zoom Meeting
12. Saturday 2:30 p.m. NW Community Hospital (Arlington Heights)

After much discussion, **REPS HAVE COMMITTED TO DO THE FOLLOWING:**

1. Pick a meeting (from the above list) to attend for the next month and contact Maureen R. at 847-502-2359 or moeresh@sbcglobal.net so she can keep track of who is attending which meetings.

2. Attend your new meeting. Be honest in how you present yourself.
3. Share information about SNI in the following ways: a) During announcements – highlight upcoming events. For example, The Region 5 Assembly is next weekend and SNI will be sending three delegates to represent ALL our SNI meeting groups. Visitors are always welcome to attend, and YOU are all invited; b) If the meeting topic is about service (or another related topic, especially if you are reading a tradition), then your share might be about how SNI/service have helped in your recovery; c) During the group's business meeting, bring up the need for the group to have a rep to SNI. Laural R. will email everyone some basic SNI background information and "Help Wanted – Intergroup Reps" (a want ad describing the job of a SNI rep), and d) Post the SNI website information in the chat.
4. Write your own recovery story about how SNI (and service) has aided in your recovery. Send to lareinhart@comcast.net (Stories will be posted to the SNI website.)

In terms of this SNI focus, we **need to also do the following:**

1. Make sure that our SNI Handbook is up-to-date and available for any new SNI reps. (Wanda C. has a link that she can send to any new rep. They can then download and print all the information from the SNI Handbook. If there was a concern about the cost to a new rep, Wanda suggested that they could submit a receipt for the copying of these materials to the SNI Treasurer.)
2. Create a script for presenting SNI information to those meetings without reps, so everyone is consistent in what they are saying. To achieve this consistency, SNI needs to answer some questions ahead of time. For example: What is SNI? Why is SNI important? Why should a meeting group send a rep to SNI? What specifically does a meeting group get from SNI? What does a rep get from being a rep? Reps are asked to bring back what information they think should be shared to the April SNI Meeting.
3. Neal M. suggested that we have some "math facts" available. For example, SNI meets for 2 hours, once a month. In one year, that would equal 1,440 minutes or only 24 hours of service (one day out of 365).

WRAP UP

What to bring back:

Publicize the **SNI website**. <https://oachicagosni.org>

Encourage members to **check out the Downloader Report on the SNI website** to find upcoming events and new publications and/or changes to OA publications.

Region 5 Assembly – Next Weekend –

Region 5 Spring Assembly March 11-13 on Zoom; visitors welcome - register at <https://oaregion5.regfox.com/region-5-spring-assembly-2022> ; see Packet A for agenda & motions <https://region5oa.org/spring-assembly-2022-packet-a/> and Packet B for officer & committee reports <https://region5oa.org/spring-assembly-2022-packet-b/>

WSBC 2022: “We Can Do Together What We Could Never Do Alone” - To be held virtually April 22-30; see tentative agenda <https://oa.org/app/uploads/2022/02/tentative-conference-agenda-wsbc-2022-rev-feb-17.pdf> ; 3rd Conference e-Documents to be posted March 11 on WSBC web page <https://oa.org/world-service-business-conference/>

BOT Revised Guidelines About Sharing OA Literature Letter - link will be posted on SNI website. Can also share this link: www.oa.org/app/uploads/2022/02/sharing-oa-copyright-material-electronically.pdf (Note: Read through the letter so you can highlight the basics.)

SNI Website **Recovery Stories requested.** Send to lareinhart@comcast.net

UPCOMING EXCITING RECOVERY SUMMER EVENT – Ask group what topics THEY would like to have included in a recovery event.

Closing: The meeting ended at 12:01 pm with the 7th Step Prayer.

Next SNI Meeting: Saturday, April 2, 2022, from 10 am to 12 noon
Meeting ID: 833-9832-5805
Passcode: 013291

Respectfully submitted,
Laural R., Recording Secretary