

SNI MEETING MINUTES for Saturday, September 14, 2024

Call to Order: The regular meeting of the Suburban North Intergroup (SNI) was held on Zoom on Saturday, September 14, 2024. Wanda C. opened the meeting at 10:02 am with the Serenity Prayer and a 30 second silent reflection.

Present were:

Board members:

- Chair: Wanda C. (also Region 5 Representative and WSBC Delegate)
- Vice Chair: Susan M. (also acting Recording Secretary)
- Treasurer: Carolyn S. (also Region 5 Representative and WSBC Delegate)
- Corresponding Secretary: Maureen R. (also Keeper of the SNI Sponsorship List and Zoom Committee Chair)

Representatives:

- Monday 6 pm Zoom: Shari D. (also Media Coordinator)
- Tuesday 7 om Zoom Men's group: Paul A.
- Wednesday 9:30 Schaumburg: June L (also Designated Downloader)
- Saturday 8 am Zoom: Cathleen F.

Visitor:

- John C., current owner of our website domain, etc.

Opening Ceremonies:

- Cathleen F. read the 12 Steps, Shari D. read the 12 Traditions, Susan M. reflected on Tradition 9 (Structure), June L. read the long version of the 9th Concept of OA Service (Ability).
- The Agenda was adopted with two more discussion points:
 - Considering whether we want to invite the 2 Forest City Intergroup (FCI) meetings to affiliate with SNI, now that FCI has folded.
 - Considering whether to be the hosting intergroup for the November assembly in Chesterton, IN.
- Wanda C. read the Standing Rules, and they were adopted as read.
- The August 3, 2024 SNI Meeting Minutes were adopted with a minor typo fix.

Reports:

- Designated Downloader June L.
 - June's report was posted on our website (oachicagosni.org).

- Save the date for the World Service Convention in Orlando, FL, August 21-13, 2025! (It happens only every 5 years.)
 - Get on the information email list by emailing conventioninfo@oa.org.
- There are links New Region 5 map post Region 4's closing. The link is on the September Downloader Report.
- There are links to the new Region 5 Logo (in horizontal and vertical formats) in the September Downloader Report.
- There are links to Sponsorship Resources.
- Check out the events on the report.
- Additional information:
 - OA board has set a new policy: OA does not endorse having minors at OA meetings. (See email from Susan sent on September 10.)
- Chair Wanda C.
 - SNI have been asked to host the Region 5 Assembly in Chesterton, IN, November 1-3. Susan will get more information and may send out an eblast to the fellowship.
- Vice Chair Susan M.'s report was sent in the pre-meeting e-blast. Additional updates:
 - Susan has withdrawn her application as nominee for Region 5 Chair.
 - Susan took the 2 SNI raffle baskets to the Region 5 Convention. The Convention was amazing—full of recovery, inspiration, and fun fellowship.
 - Susan has updated the following SNI Handbook documents:
 - List of OA Guidelines
 - OA Guidelines (newer versions)
 - Contact Information (which will change in October after our elections and again in November after Region 5 elections)
 - Handbook suggestions
 - Susan still needs 2 to 4 more volunteers for the nominating committee, and would also appreciate any nominee suggestions/volunteers.
 - Forest City Intergroup folded recently. They had 2 meetings in the Rockford area. We are one of 4 intergroups they could affiliate with. Do we want to invite them to affiliate with SNI?
- Treasurer Carolyn S.
 - The July monthly report and the year-to-date budget report were sent out in the pre-meeting email.
 - Carolyn asked for permission to use SNI funds to purchase Microsoft software with which to fulfill her treasurer duties.
 - Carolyn will consider using QuickBooks or similar software
 - She can Google nonprofit bookkeeping software.
 - Shari would be willing to help her navigate such software.
 - Carolyn will contact the Region 5 Treasurer to learn what they do.
 - There was a deposit from an undisclosed meeting that had closed. We found the meeting (Saturday 8:30 am mtg # 48032).
- Media Coordinator Shari D.

- Appreciates the great training she received from John C. for managing our website, as well as for the user-friendliness of the design of the website.
- Our website was created in 2021 as an experiment with a 3-year subscription. The renewal due September 19.
- Website John C.
 - Domain, Hosting, Security (to keep the owner of the site is private), Site Security (to prevent hacking) are the four expenses associated with our website.
 - It was decided that John will renew for 1 year to give us time to decide who will be the next owner of the website.
 - John has agreed to change the color and background on the main page each quarter.
 - Carolyn S. will give him credit card information for the renewal.
- Acting Recording Secretary Susan M.
 - 2 items to consider at a future meeting:
 - Susan suggested we reconsider what we want posted to the Region 5 Intergroup page. (Currently, the region intergroup page refers visitors to see our website for our meeting schedule, newsletter, and intergroup minutes.)
 - Consider posting news from oa.org, like the policy on minors at meetings, on our website, or possibly links to the source.
- Corresponding Secretary Maureen R.
 - Two new groups affiliated with SNI—please spread the word!
 - Sunday 4 pm Zoom only OA Big Book Study, Speaker first Sunday of the month
 - Tuesday 7-8:30 pm Park Ridge Beginners Group

Business:

- We are looking for TSW chair and committee members to plan our next event.
 - Cathleen, Wanda, Maureen, Susan volunteered to be on the committee.
 - Susan set up a text group to facilitate scheduling meetings and sharing ideas.
- Carolyn S. shared a picture of the billboard ad that Cleveland Intergroup arranged.

The next meeting is scheduled to be hybrid on Saturday, October 5, 2024.

The November meeting will be on the second Saturday (November 9) to avoid conflict with the Region 5 Assembly.

Closing:

Wanda closed the meeting with the “We” form of the 7th Step Prayer at 12:03 pm.

September 2024 SNI Vice Chair/Acting Recording Secretary Report

- I added the **spiritual principles** of the Tradition of the month and the Concept of OA Service of the month to the opening ceremonies in the August minutes draft.
- Shari D (our new media coordinator) and I had training on how to post items to the SNI website.
- I updated the **SNI Glossary** and included it in the September pre-SNI eblast.
- Please be thinking of fellows who could be **candidates for SNI** Chair (2-year term), Treasurer (2-year term), Recording Secretary (1-year term), Region 5 Representative (1-year term), and Alternate World Service Business Conference Delegate (2-year term). Check the Bylaws and Policies for qualifications and responsibilities.
- **I have applied** to be a candidate for the Region 5 Chair position. There is at least one other candidate. The Region 5 election will take place at the Region 5 Fall Assembly, November . If I am elected, I will need to step down as Vice Chair of SNI.
- **I enjoy continuing to work** on Region 5 and WSBC committees and subcommittees.
- Region 5 now has started updating the **Intergroup list on region5oa.org**.
 - Our website is now listed.
 - Currently, the Meeting List, Newsletter, and Intergroup Minutes prompts are followed by “See <https://oachicagosni.org>”.
 - Let’s reconsider whether or not to post our meeting list and/or minutes. If we decide to post the minutes, it would be the approved minutes from the previous month, and it would be submitted by the recording secretary.
- I updated what the header of the meeting list says about intergroup representatives. **Representatives** do more than people to carry information back to meetings. (That is what Liaisons do.) We need representatives to help make decisions (by voting) and do service work.
- **Conventions:** Opportunities to boost your recovery and do service.
 - The 2024 **Region 5 Convention** in Cleveland (Independence), OH, was amazing! So much recovery! So much creativity! I wish you could all have been there!
 - The **next Region 5 Convention** is scheduled to be in Milwaukee (Brookfield), WI, May 23-25, 2025.
 - Please mark your calendars and start preparations to be there! For some, it is close enough to commute, however, if you have the time and funds to do it, stay at the hotel for maximum growth.
 - Please start publicizing the 2025 convention at your meetings!

- Even if you are not able to go, you can still do service by working on a committee to prepare for it!
 - The **2025 World Service Convention** is scheduled for August 21-23, 2025 in Orlando (SeaWorld), Florida.
- On Monday, I e-blasted the **OA announcement** regarding the new policy that OA does not endorse having minors at OA meetings.
- I have started making a list of **higher education institutions** that we may wish to send the letter “Assisting Staff Responsible for Student Well-being at Higher Education Institutions” that the WSBC Young People’s Committee provided.