

## **MAY 7 SOUTHWEST FLORIDA INTERGROUP MINUTES**

**Call to Order** at 10:35 by Jill B.

### **Serenity Prayer**

**Agenda** - Margie moved to accept the agenda as written. Gil seconded the motion. It was accepted unanimously

**April 2, 2022 Meeting Minutes** - Pat moved to accept the amended minutes that were e-mailed to all board members. Margie seconded the motion. It was accepted unanimously.

**Roll Call** - Jill B., chair and Saturday Riverside meeting rep; Pat H., treasurer and Monday Cape Coral rep; Carol F., Wednesday Iona meeting rep; Margie P., Tuesday Sanibel rep; Gil P., recording secretary and Friday Sanibel rep; Roz S., Region 8 rep, Bylaws committee chair and temporary Thursday Unity meeting rep; Cathy, guest; Sharon, guest; Carolyn, guest; Karen D., guest.

**Concepts of Service** - Jill and Pat combined to read Concept Five in its entirety

### **Officer/Committee Reports**

**Chair** - Jill said she had no report.

**Vice Chair** - Carol G. was absent. There was no report.

**Recording Secretary** - Gil had no report

**Treasurer** - Pat reported that our general fund balance from April 2 was \$466.02. We received \$897.33 in donations from seven groups, \$65.00 from Retreat donations, and \$0.06 interest (March and April).

We had one expense: \$35.42 for website maintenance/fees. Our general fund balance as of 5/7/2022 is \$1,392.99. We also have the following reserves: PIPO: \$493.62; Retreat Scholarship: \$1,000; Prudent Reserve: \$200.00; WSO/Region 8 Rep Expense: \$1,000. The grand total of all these categories is \$4,086.61, which has been reconciled with the bank. Money will be sent for the 1st quarter to World Service and Region 8 on June 1.

**Region 8** - Roz read her report from the Region 8 Assembly, April 1-3. The report follows:

"In no formal order, the following was stated: There is a new food plan pamphlet that will replace Dignity of Choice and A Plan of Eating.

"Every year, a new certificate (January) and/or a year where there is a change in IG chair, reps, or alternate to R8, must be submitted.

"Fundraising : Journals and OA pens are for sale at <https://oaregion8.org>. Sixty-five people attended with 44 voting.

"As there were translators, we chose which room (English, Portuguese, or Spanish) we needed to be in and subtitles would appear. After Serenity Prayer, The Twelve Steps, The Twelve Traditions, The Concepts of Service, we listened to the daily readings from Voices of Recovery, and For Today.

"Date announced for fall assembly and convention is October 21 thru October 23, 2022. The convention part is hosted by Miami Dade Intergroup. The theme will be "Super Success With A Super Solution". This will be virtual.

"Spring 2023 has not fully been planned, as no groups have stepped up for the convention part. This, we hope, will be live, face to face.

"The first speaker was someone who had been in program for 5 years. He stated his weight had gone from 370 down to 270. He talks and writes to his HP. To HP he writes: 'I trust you, I know you, I love you.' He said he writes those words so not to let his ego get in the way; everyday he writes an ego paragraph. Definitely, his other message of hope is to be open-minded and be willing.

"Michelle, treasurer of R8, stated that on the website, there are forms and lots of information on how to apply for funds. The monies have to be used. We can order books if we choose. We just need to ask. She is ready, willing and able to help anyone who steps forward and asks.

"Katrina, immediate past chair of R8, who moved into Trustee position, when previous Trustee moved off due to personal reasons, has stated after she completes the unexpired term, she will not be up for election as Trustee.

"There was talk about Lifeline coming back digitally. Also, a Lifeline Blog?

"We then broke off to committee sessions. So, in my committee, IGOR or Intergroup Outreach, we nominated and voted in Sarah, who has been outstanding. She was new when she joined as chair. We could and did get the vote passed. Sarah was not there, as she was committed to working for the convention side, her home meetings being Tennessee.

"Sarah got all regions from around the room together, for ideas. Also, she started a tip series, so IGs can let others know what they have tried, what works or not. Then, on Sunday, she stated she had no intention of being chairperson. No one volunteered. To be continued.

"Basically, the objective of IGOR is to be liaison between Soar 8 and unaffiliated groups.

"Motion A was withdrawn, with no discussion. It read: Amend Region 8 Policy & Procedure Manual.

"Twelfth Step Within: This committee is really in need of nighttime people who are willing to take late calls, especially from the west coast (California, not Florida) There is a red button on R8 website for help, mentors, sponsors. Please pass the word.

"PI/PO: Melissa B talked about TikTok and Facebook. Also, there is a new platform for young people. She talked on how to expand into current live TikTok to put bunny or mice masks. She is also looking for interviews, so if anyone is interested, just call.

"There was talk about new starter packets, not just a pamphlet, but to include a *Big Book* and *Twelve and Twelve*.

"There was a discussion, once again, that some meeting places now want renters to have insurance. One woman, who used to be in the business, recommended Philadelphia Insurance Co. They deal with liability insurance, and work well with nonprofits. If more info is needed, members are recommended to get in touch with the A.A. General Service Office in New York City.

"Recommendation was to put out blasts to do service. Mentors are available, but we need more. This program is inclusive to everyone, so work hard to be welcoming. Recommended: Put out a virtual blast. That is to combine meetings every month, but switch host meeting use.

"Another thought was that if people missed face-to face meetings, why not meet in a park or coffee shop at least once a week.

"I did not send copies of officer reports.

"I found this assembly did not run as smoothly as all the previous ones. It takes a lot of work and a lot of patience. The chairperson was speaking when, out of nowhere, piano music started. She explained it was her husband playing the piano. I lost attention, because I have some sort of learning problem of hearing external noises, whether it is a fan or piano, or dogs barking. Cute, but not for me. During a break, I asked someone if maybe the chairperson could ask him to stop playing. It wasn't that she could mute herself. She herself answered me, and I apologized for myself, but I can't count how many people thanked me for similar reasons. Also, there were several technical problems. When we voted, some people never received their ballots, so we had to keep repeating the process, until the numbers matched the official count. Also, ID numbers and timing of lunch speaker kept changing. I kept thinking of 'WHO's on first?' I had trouble getting into the convention side, and missed out on a lot.

"It is a privilege to see the workings at region level. I have learned so much about OA worldwide, not just our little corner. Thank you for all your support.

"In service,  
*Roz*"

**Newcomer Outreach Committee** - The board voted unanimously to form this committee, which had been informal up to this point. Margie has reached out to four people

**WSO** - Vacant

**Twelfth Step Within** - Vacant

**PI/PO** - Vacant

**Temporary Website Manager** - Jill noted she will be working with Carol F., so Carol can decide whether she would like to take over that position. Karen D., one of the guests at the meeting, offered to be of service in managing the website. Plans were discussed for Carol F. to pick her up for a training session with Jill. Gil and Roz each

noted they have purchased copies of the Newcomers "Getting Started" pamphlet to give/send to potential members and have made the purchases as personal donations.

**Changes/Lists** - It was noted that old lists include a Friday night Cape Coral meeting. Jill said the website has that meeting suspended till further notice. No action was taken.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

**Retreat 2022 Wrap-Up** - Jill reported the Virtual retreat went well and that all four speakers' recordings are available on the website, after many hours of work to make them accessible. She said she believed the retreat was successful, adding that Carol G.'s posting of the address to make donation was most helpful in raising money for the Intergroup (as Pat reported in the Treasurer's report above, the Intergroup received \$65 in contributions).

**Bylaws** - Roz reported she will work with fellow committee members, Pat and Gil, to set dates for the committee to begin its review.

**Updates to Intergroup Positions Flyer** - Jill reported she will wait to change the website coordinator position until a training session and a new manager is in place.

**Good and Welfare** - Roz noted that former Intergroup Treasurer, Liz B., has been ill for much of the past two years and also is experiencing personal issues. She no longer is an active member, but did contact Roz. If anyone wishes to contact Liz, e-mail Roz, who has her number.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**Serenity Prayer/ Adjournment** - The board said the Serenity Prayer in unison and the meeting was adjourned at 11:26 a.m.

*Respectfully submitted by Gil P*