

Minutes Intergroup Meeting

October 5, 2024

1. Meeting was called to order at 10:36 a.m. by chairperson, Jill, and we recited the Serenity Prayer.
2. The agenda was approved.
3. September 2024 minutes were approved.
4. Present at this meeting (11members): Jill B, Bibi S, Alice H, Pat H, Elva B, Sharon W, Tom L, Janice S, Bonita K, Jodi S, plus visitor Holly M /Absent: Carol F, Carol G, Karen N, Lisa K, Peggy H, Gil P, Roz S
5. Sharon read Concept 10.

Officer/Committee Reports

1. Jill will discuss her Intergroup tasks when we talk about Old Business; she reported again that she will no longer be the chair of Intergroup after her term ends in November.
2. Bibi had no report
3. Pat reported that the agenda should read “secretary” per the by-laws, and not “recording secretary”.
4. Alice’s treasurer’s report was posted and the summary was read as follows:

We started September with \$5,888.52 in our LMCU checking and savings accounts.

We received four 7th Tradition donation checks in September, totaling income of \$720. Note that a big chunk of the total donations was from Naples meetings totaling \$575. FYI - I’ll be returning to Fort Myers in 10 days so there hopefully will no longer be a delay in my receipt of mail at my Fort Myers address.

September expenses were rental of our storage unit for one month for \$38.79, a third quarter donation of \$452.40 to WSO and \$150.80 to SOAR Region 8. I misspoke at our last meeting regarding the percentages sent to these organizations so I put it in writing on this month’s Treasurer’s Report. We keep 60% of donations, 30% goes to WSO, and 10% goes to Region 8. One other expense was reimbursement to Pat Howard for purchasing OA Concepts booklets for \$26.25. Total expenses for September \$668.24.

At the end of September the total amount of our savings and checking accounts at LMCU was \$5,940.28 after adding the income and subtracting the expenses from the balance at the beginning of September.

As a reminder to everyone, the total amount of our funds is allocated to four areas: \$500 for PIPO/Literature Fund, \$1,000 for Retreat Scholarship Fund, \$200 for Prudent Reserve, and \$3,000 for WSO/Region 8 Rep expenses. These four areas total \$4,700. The remaining balance in our LMCU account for payment of other expenses is \$1,240.28.

5. Roz’s report: I am not available for Saturday Intergroup meeting, as I am in New Hampshire to celebrate my son’s marriage tonight. I am writing this in advance, hoping that the full board will read what I have written and come up with ideas. I am giving you the background first.

On Friday afternoon, one of the speakers was truthful when she spoke and what she spoke about.

"We need to carry the message" was the beginning. "Where do we (OA) want to be in 10 years?" She went on to explain how to involve others and get the word out. She mentioned social media like Instagram, facebook, Tik Tok and others. Also, there is more competition than ever before, with all different kinds of weight reducing ideas.

On Sunday morning, my IGOR (Intergroup Outreach) committee hosted a 2hour seminar with any and all present from the assembly invited. In many areas of Region 8, in person meetings are increasing. Many intergroups talked about social get together after meetings. Maybe once a month to have coffee together. There have been dances held, as a Halloween party is scheduled.

What do these groups that are increasing have in common? They all appear to have a very active PI/PO committee, using social media. Some groups requested money for publicity ads on public buses. I know the figure was hefty, about \$4,000.00. Other groups had sent out invites for future activities, and received over 700 replies. Other groups put ads on shopping carts in food stores.

Then I think about us, our small Intergroup. What are the answers? Most important, get PI/PO involved. Get younger people to do what they do best. We know they are our future. Get our sponsees to step up. Service gives motivation. Our meeting numbers have increased by two, as we have younger members starting what they saw as needs.

Please think about this and leave some time in December on the agenda for some ideas. Also, there were intergroups who went to several health fairs, walking around handing out cards or leaflets with QR codes on the back. Something new. Speaking of new, R8 is starting to sell die, actually 12 sided dice with words from 12 steps, hoping to increase by others working on traditions. Buy 3, get 1 free. Free shipping. Cost is \$10.00 each. More journals are being printed in English and now in Portuguese.

A few weeks ago, an email came from WSO, regarding minors at meetings were no longer welcome. As a trustee was present at the assembly, she was questioned how and why did this happen, as nothing was mentioned in the report from WSBC in May. Her reply: this has been brewing for awhile. Every state, every country has different laws. It appears that the book on sexuality and self image created havoc in a state as there were professionals in the group. By the laws of their state, they had to report possible problems to the young people present. Also, these professionals could lose their licenses if not reported. Also, there were comments by adults who felt insecure sharing with minors present. As the trustee stated: more will be revealed. I commented when I saw that this specific book was printed, I would say that it will cause a problem in the future. The future is now.

The business aspect was not so involved as there were not a lot of issues to be worked or voted on. We did talk about World Service Convention in Orlando next August. Also, in the spring, Louisiana is hosting the next Assembly as hybrid.

In service,
Roz, R8 Rep

This report was emailed to each member this week, and was not discussed due to a shortage of time.

Group Rep Reports: Jodi informed us that the Saturday 6:30 meeting and the Sunday 4:00 meeting sent out 25 PIPO letters to doctors in the area. Elva reported that the Friday 5:30 meeting had 3 newcomers last week, with a total of 10 people in person; she feels there is a growing interest in people coming back to in person meetings.

New Business

1. **Secretary Expenses:** Pat reported that she is spending quite a bit of money on ink for her printer and copy paper: black ink costs \$ 40.49, and paper is \$ 5.59, for a total of \$ 49.08 including tax. The motion was approved for Pat to spend that money, as well as for envelopes or postage as needed. The group is supporting anyone else incurring expenses for their Intergroup work.

2. **PIPO Opportunity at Job Fair (10/24)**—Pat explained about the job fair that was emailed to everyone this week. This is a second chance job fair, with special emphasis on welcoming neighbors who have been incarcerated and connecting them with employment opportunities to establish a strong fresh start.

We will be part of the resources section. They have had hundreds of people attend in the past. We need to arrive at 9:30, and it continues until 2:00. Bonita, Janice, Alice and Pat will help, but more volunteers are always welcome. Please contact one of us if you can do this service.

Bonita has also said she is possibly interested in the PIPO chair position; Pat will meet with her to discuss what that entails.

2. Elections: Jill announced that we need a person to be in charge of collecting nominations for the 4 officer positions (Chair/Co-chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, Treasurer). This person would also run the elections on November 2. The Chair position could be shared between 2 people. Since Jill is not running for an office, she will take nominations and run the election. Alice and Pat are willing to continue in their offices.

3. Jill's Tasks for Intergroup: Jill reviewed the list with us; comments/additions as follows:

- IG Chairperson is also responsible for conducting the audit of the treasurer's books (see bylaws)
- The committee in charge of special events (IDEA Day, Unity Day, etc.) could be in charge of making their flyers for the event
- Janice will now be the primary contact with the storage unit; Bonita will take the 3rd key (Pat also has a key)
- Jill will talk to Carol F about taking over the website responsibilities
- Jill will talk to Margie about creating and monitoring a IG email
- Jill has already revised the PIPO letter to professionals

4. IDEA Day (International Day Experiencing Abstinence): Jill will ask that the Saturday morning OA meeting allow us to use their time starting at 9:30 (after the newcomer's meeting) on November 16. Bonita, Gil and Roz are on the committee. and they will create a flier to go to all IG reps and officers, to share at our meetings. and will send it to Carol F for our website.

5. Member absenteeism—tabled until next month

Old Business

2. Good and Welfare—Kay Sheppard's family (who passed away this week and was instrumental with food plans in OA), Mary Jo R, and Peggy and her husband Frank--all in our thoughts and prayers.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:39 am with the Serenity Prayer.