

Call to Order at 6:45pm; Group says the Serenity Prayer and the 9th Tradition is read.

There were:

- 27 people in attendance
- 22 OA groups represented
- 5 Board members
- 2 Trustees
- 6 IG Committee Chairpersons
- 6 IGR were identified as new attendees

We did have a quorum.

For the second month, Barbara determines to begin with old and new business, and conclude with reports, so as to get the business done before people have to leave.

PENDING BUSINESS

#1: 9/20 Region 6 Trustee Event/Workshop

Sandra's Update as Special Events Chair: everything is in order for this. We have a number of volunteers, materials are ordered, there's lots of support, venue is set.

Barbara: trustee requested a flip chart/easel

Sandra: acknowledged, and asked about a budget to rent or buy that item. There wasn't a resolution to that question.

#2: 9/28 Steps 8 & 9 Workshops

Sandra, Ellen, and Tom are involved in the prep for this event.

Sandra discusses the possibility of combining workshops for steps 10 & 11, because 11 falls right before Thanksgiving, and 10 falls on the same weekend as the region 6 convention (which Andrea pointed out). The group discusses moving or combining the step workshops at length, since both dates have conflicts. We discuss finding a date in the middle.

After a time, the group votes: the group is opposed to consolidating the workshops.

Bottom Line: The meetings will not be combined, dates remain the same.

#3 Changing the Location of Our Intergroup Meeting

Chair: explains that an Ad Hoc committee has convened to discuss moving the location of our intergroup meetings. They're doing research. People find it hard to get here. She proposes that we set a time to hear about their research.

Marcia shares that in all her prior research, this space is very affordable.

Harriet says this meeting is easy to get to because all the subways convene in this part of town.

Chair: explains that when this issue first came up, the purpose of the committee was to do the research.

Erin: explains that at the time, attendance was very low. The group wondered if maybe the low attendance was because of the location. Attendance is now a bit higher.

Bottom line: Ad hoc committee will report back next month with their findings.

#4 Volunteers for Google Voice

Rita says this is part of her report, and we can discuss it when she does her report.

#5 Delegates for the World Service Business Conference

We need to see who's available and interested, so that we can let the appropriate people know who's going to the business conference.

Requirements to attend the WSBC

- 2 years in program
- 1 year of current abstinence
- 2 years of service above the group level
- Must have attended 2 prior region assemblies
- Andrea: points out that as long as someone attends the next two business assemblies they'll have the requirements. The only requirement we cannot waive is a year of abstinence.

Meeting has previously agreed that there will be 2 supported (paid for) delegates, and 2 additional people who want to attend and are willing to pay for themselves.

Chair: asks the room for a show of hands to see who's theoretically available. 6 or 7 people raise their hands: Scott, Adam, Marcia, Jeff, Andrea, Elaine, Barbara.

It takes place in Albuquerque, NM. Tues, May 3 – Sat, May 7. Our group has allotted \$1500/pp for 2 people.

Bottom Line: we'll revisit next month and make our decisions then.

Additionally, we discussed the upcoming Business Assembly on 10/3. Kate has a conflict and might need a replacement as a representative. If she can get to Albany later [after work] on Friday night, she might be able to attend. Marcia, who is driving up after work volunteered to take Kate with her. The two will discuss.

There are still two open spaces available. Rita volunteered to attend , and the group voted to waive the abstinence requirement by a few weeks so she could attend.

Attendees are reimbursed up to \$150. Rooms are \$111, and attendees have to have roommates. Right now, Andrea doesn't have a roommate.

Qualifications to attend the Business Assembly:

- 1 year in OA
- 6 months of continuous participation in Intergroup
- 6 months of abstinence

#6 Update on the Development of the Intergroup Qualifier's List

Rita: explains that a suggestion was made by Ellen to create a signup list of people in the area who can speak, so that meetings have a resource when they're looking for qualifiers who everyone doesn't already know.

Chair: there are speaker lists like this on the websites of Region 6 and World Service.

Kate: got some names last month, will send them to Rita soon

Rachel: asks if these names and numbers will actually be listed on the website. Will they be public?

Rita: says yes, that's the whole point. To have that centralized list.

Sandra and others agree that it's important to protect anonymity by not making these numbers publicly available. We need to get in touch with Devyn to see how to handle that.

Member: asks if Devyn can secure the website in such a way as to protect all numbers, even meeting contacts, from being so easily accessible to the rest of the internet.

Marcia: clarifies that if we're a meeting contact our name is on the world service website, so it's not up to Devyn, or the NYC Metro Intergroup's website. It's already out there, so to speak.

Erin says the numbers on world services are protected.

Bottom line: we'll speak to Devyn about possibly making the list a PDF, to further anonymize it and make it harder to access numbers via search.

NEW BUSINESS

#1 Finding a new Recording Secretary

Chair asks Lauren if she'd like to continue with the role through the end of the term. Lauren agrees. Group votes to waive the 6 months of Intergroup experience required. Lauren will email Devyn to get access to have him establish her as the recording secretary by linking the recordingsecretary@oanyc.org email to her personal email address.

REPORTS

1. Chair's Report

We have received notice from the R6 Coordinator that the NY Greater NY Metro IG has 104 meetings, which entitles us to have 11 reps at the upcoming Fall Assembly in Albany on October 3.

2. Vice Chair's Report

Last month Jeff S. gave the New Representative Orientation. He had 2 new delegates and said maybe 1 or 2 more came in after the meeting began.

3. Treasurer's Report

Erin walked us through the budget. We're down about \$3300, and we have some insurance fees coming up.

Kate asked how do we know which meetings contribute. Erin explained we don't always know, but when groups include their meeting number with their donation we know. Jeff S explains how to find your group number on the world services website.

4. Corresponding Secretary

August IG Meeting- Total attendance: (27) Intergroup Reps, (3) Board members, (3) Trustees, (4) IG Committee Chairs were in attendance; (3) IGR were identified as new attendees

27 Groups Represented by IG Reps at August mtg:

Mon groups represented: 3/13, 23%: Hudson Guild 7:15 Women's, 7:30 Shaare Zekek; 6:30 BK Hts;

Tues groups represented: 4/15, 27%: LGBT 12:15, Hudson Guild, Central Syn, Realization Center 8pm

Wed groups represented: 5/14, 36%: St Peter's, Holy Trinity, Morgan Stanley, BK Hts 6:30, Hudson Body Image

Thurs groups represented: 5/14, 36%: Ramaz, Moravian 6:15, Hudson 6pm, Meditation 7pm, St Thomas

Friday groups represented: 4/9, 44%: Blyn Hts, Realization, St Bart's, St Paul + Andrew

Sat groups represented: 3/17, 18%: Artists, Realiz Center, Young People

Sun groups represented, 3/14, 25%: Inwood, Jewish Center, Recovery from Relapse

- We need a volunteer for all or part of October to manage the Google Voice line and call people back when they call the general number. Time spent varies. It averages 4-5 calls a week. Patrice volunteers!

Also, contacts are still needed for 6 meetings. Rita isn't sure if some of the meetings still exist. She goes through her list of meetings to see if anyone here knows if they do. Kate offers to check on one meeting. Marcia offers to check on two.

Rita would like to see if there's support for a basket/raffle from intergroup to send to the Region 6 convention. The basket might contain literature and other program goodies. She asks if Intergroup is interested in helping to create that basket. A few members offer to ask for contributions at their regular meetings.

4. Archives Committee

Adam explains we're missing about 18 mos. worth of digital documents because there was a vacancy in the recording secretary position. He'd like to have a committee meeting in two weeks to determine how to store flyers and minutes so if someone wanted to go back and search, they'd be able to.

5. Outreach Committee

Makes a plug for health fairs. Asks for members to announce the opportunity for service at meetings, and email outreach@oanyc.org to volunteer.

Also, there's an upcoming Bariatric Walk [**I believe this is the theme of the group, not the nqme—please confirm, Marcia**], and Marcia needs someone to bring OA literature to the group's office. Rita can maybe help out. Marcia and Rita will coordinate. Adam will also try to help.

6. Publications

Chair wasn't in attendance. We read her written report.

Another Monthly Memo email was sent on September 1st. Please announce at meetings that we have a new email list and you can sign up on the front page of our website. We now have 136 subscribers. For the emails and the Metro Memo, I am mostly looking for people to write short articles. Suggested topics: a blurb about your home meeting, OA NYC event recap, committee highlight (have already done publications and 12SW), writing on a step or tradition,

etc. If anyone wants to write anything, please email me at publications@oanyc.org. Thanks to Rita for getting the meeting list sorted out this month!

7. Retreat Committee

Correction from last meeting: Elizabeth last reported that we experienced a loss from the retreat. In fact, we're up \$500 or so.

Next retreat is January 22-24, 2016. We've settled on the Guest House again. Elizabeth suggests that we make it clear to attendees that the bus ride will likely be long, to help manage expectations. The bus contract is in process at a lower rate.

She asks reps to communicate the value of the retreat in meetings, as one of our goals is to increase attendance. We still need to finalize the theme. Registration will open in October.

The Guest House is contracted and the deposit has been paid. The committee members continue to look for other retreat centers closer to Manhattan requiring a shorter bus ride or available by public transit. A change for the January event is less likely but still possible.

8. Special Events Committee

Sandra has a few new event ideas:

- a talent show!
- Another idea: a piñata smash as an analogy for smashing our old ideas.
- If people would like to be involved with new events, they can get in touch with Sandra at specialevents@oanyc.org.

The Thanksgiving marathon space is booked at Jan Hus - 10am to 7pm for now - it is just a hold. Will need to secure a time frame and pay a deposit; poss \$150. Contact from Jan Hus will call Sandra soon. Marcia lets Sandra know how we did the Thanksgiving Marathon meeting in years past, so that Sandra doesn't have to reinvent the wheel around Thanksgiving time. Tom, the previous Chair, ha notebook of templates for Sandra to use.

9. 12 Step Within Committee

Rep not in attendance. We read the report aloud. Barbara encourages members to, on the 12th of each month, call around to people we haven't seen in awhile.

From the written report: *On August 26th there was an informal brainstorming conversation with a former member of the Twelfth Step Within Committee and two other fellows. Among the ideas discussed were:*

- *Ways to present Twelfth Step Within as offering support within the fellowship – not as recovery from relapse;*

- *Circulating “suggestions” for Twelfth Step Within service to Intergroup Representatives each month to take back as announcements to the meetings they attend;*
- *Coordinating with the Special Events Committee or arranging qualify about Twelfth Step Within at regular OA meetings scheduled for December 12, 2015 – International Twelfth Step Within Day;*
- *Maximizing the Metro IG website with aggregated information about available speakers, fellows available for phone calls, phone meetings, podcasts, meetings that need support, etc.*

A more formal meeting will be scheduled for later in the month of September.

10. Web Committee

Rep was not present. We read the report aloud.

From the written report: *OANYC.org had 3016 visits by 1852 unique visitors for the month of August and a total of 6133 pages were viewed during this period. The percentage of new visitors was 45% with the remaining 54% being return visitors. On average, each visitor was on the site for 1 minute and 43 seconds. Overall visitor numbers were slightly up from same month in the previous year (2.83%).*

The next scheduled web committee meeting is planned for October. Final details will be posted to the website.

WRAPPING UP

Announcement: there were three newcomers at the orientation meeting before IG meeting today. A few more came in during the meeting, who Marcia will talk to.

Meeting ended close to 8:45 with the Serenity Prayer.