

**OA Middle Tennessee Intergroup
Business Meeting Minutes
July 20, 2009**

NOTE: Highlighted items are service opportunities or meeting announcements noted in drafting the minutes.

1. Angie welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order.
2. She led us in the Serenity Prayer.
3. Introductions: Barbara B., Vice Chair, Angie B., Chair, Debbie, Substitute Secretary, Carol K., Phone Chair; Linda B. Literature Chair; Lee T.; Linda Rep. Tues. Franklin Mtg.; Peggy, Thurs. 6pm meeting; Dottie, IG rep for 9:00 am Sat.; Doug, Friday noon, IG Rep.; Bob Monday Noon IG Rep.
4. The Bylaws were not read.
5. Sarah read the 7th Tradition.
6. Barbara read the 7th Concept.
7. The minutes from June *were accepted without changes* as distributed.
8. Sarah gave the Treasurer's report.
 - o Available funds are \$1,866.70 with \$6,000 in our prudent reserve and \$150 in prudent rent reserve.
 - o Rent is paid through July.
 - o Donation not yet given to Region 8 and WSO.
 - o \$80.00 has been collected for drink sales.Doug asked about a line item liability of \$2,310, and Sara explained that it is a temporary liability involving rent for both properties that would resolve itself.
9. OLD BUSINESS
 - Automatic Defibrillator – do we have one? Suggested having a sign indicating its location could be posted near the fire extinguisher. Peggy will call Sandy tomorrow and alert everyone of the response.
 - **MTI very much needs someone with tax / accounting experience** to research issues about our tax free status, tax filings, federal ID number – all generally IRS-related issues. Anyone with possible resources with these skills can contact Angie. Reminded everyone to ask about at meetings
 - July 2010 Region Convention
 - o We did not wind up bidding on this convention; there were hotel issues that could not be worked out before we had to bid. New Orleans did get the bid and probably would have gotten it anyway due to the fact that they had not hosted since about 2002.
 - o What do we want to bid on was asked? Sarah suggested March 2011 due to prices being up in July, in March we may get a better deal.
 - o Peggy moved that we bid on the March 2011 conference, and Dottie seconded. The motion carried.

10. NEW BUSINESS

- a. World Service is asking all meetings to incorporate the new Diversity statement in their formats.

As we extend the heart and hand of fellowship to those who still suffer, let us be mindful of OA's Unity with Diversity Policy, which respects our differences, yet unites us in the solution to our common problem. Whatever problem you may have with food, you are welcome at this meeting.

Doug asked for an explanation of the diversity statement. Diversity as explained by Angie is trying to get things available to everyone who suffers, for example, Spanish speaking people. The new Abstinence statement wording is also intended to be more inclusive of anorexics and bulimics.

- b. Dottie asked about the WSO website meeting list doesn't list four of the current meetings that we have. It will be updated.
- c. Dottie brought up that there will be a change made to the address of the Charter.
- d. Angie brought up that the benefit of getting approved as a tax free organization is not worth the effort, but that we do need to get current on our tax returns and Federal I.D. number, as brought up by Stephanie W.

11. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. Meeting List - Brian G.
- o Meeting lists are updated and we are re-stocked w/ We Care Lists.
 - o Dottie will get with Brian regarding the website meeting list.
 - o Doug announced that the men's meeting (The Trudgers at 4PM Sundays) focuses on men's issues.
 - o Need contact person for Friday 6pm meeting
- b. Communication – Alicia is going to post the recurring events on the Google group, e.g., Intergroup meetings, "Focus on Abstinence Meetings," etc.

11. COMMITTEE REPORTS (Continued)

c. Media Library – Jenny Barriga

- Need donations of CDs and clear envelope cases.
- Some CDs from the Region 8 conference were purchased and copies will be made for distribution. Finalization of the CDs means they will play in the car.
- 13 page wrap-up report sent to the WSO group.
- WSO allows us to send out PSAs. Someone (?) will investigate how to get the public service announcements out to radio and TV stations. A couple of stations in Chattanooga are playing PSA's.

d. Region 8 / WSO delegate - Stephanie W.

WSBC CONVENTION by Angie B. (went as a Region 8 delegate)

- Will send 13 page wrap-up report to the Google group.
- I was on the PI Committee and will post to the Google group the list of radio stations in Tennessee to which WS sent the PSA announcement.
- New definition of Abstinence
Abstinence in Overeaters Anonymous is the action of refraining from compulsive eating and compulsive food behaviors. Spiritual, emotional and physical recovery is the result of living the Overeaters Anonymous Twelve-Step program.
- Stressing Diversity
 - Workshop where 3 presentations were given in 3 languages
 - They are trying to get Spanish speaking meetings started.
- Translation Fund Established and Open for Contributions
 - Translation is expensive; a separate fund was established for it.
 - Donations to WSBC can be designated for the Translation Fund.
 - Some countries have already translated OA literature (e.g., Brazil), and WSBC wants to license them for the literature, track languages and make the variety widely available.
 - MTI:
 - Would like to offer translators at designated meetings
 - Becky suggested that we announce in meetings that Spanish interpreters/translators are being sought to provide services at select meetings
 - Add the Spanish version of our phone message to our answering service.
 - Tina will check on the Region 8 website and put a translation option on it.

11. COMMITTEE REPORTS (Continued)

- **OA's 50th Anniversary at the 2010 World Service Convention
RETURN AGAIN IN 2010: WE ARE FAMILY**

August 26-29, 2010

Hilton Los Angeles Airport Hotel

Los Angeles, California USA

- Sarah announced that the WSO convention is open to anyone who wants to go, but that you have to pay your own way.

REGION 8 BUSINESS CONFERENCE

- Twelve Step Within is going to be doing a campaign to draw people to the Region 8 convention in Memphis in 2010. Memphis is a very small intergroup and will need our support.
- OA region8.org has redesigned their website. There are still a few links that are being tweaked, but it is basically working. A Google translation button can be pressed to translate the website into several different languages.
- **Region 8 Trustee position is open. Gerri H., Raye F, and Carla have been nominated for that position.**
- November will also be the time to elect a new Region 8 chair. Several people were nominated. The treasurer position also had nominations.
- The forum was on diversity and how we could affect it. Results of will be shared as soon as available. One exciting suggestion was to take a Region 8 business assembly to Puerto Rico.

e. Phone - Carol K.

Contacted Cricket and it will take 4-5 days to get on automatic bill pay using credit card given by Sarah. Carol paid bill today and we are caught up.

f. Lifeline - Barbara Z. (no report)

g. Group Outreach – Nancy C. (no report)

h. **Twelve Step Within – Open Chair**

- Entails reaching within the membership – encouraging, making calls, raising consciousness about carrying the message within the meetings.
- Looking for people who are not at the meetings, reaching out, take a risk, make a call
- This behavior is all members' responsibility, and it is a best practice of strong Intergroup organizations.

11. COMMITTEE REPORTS (Continued)

- i. Public Information – Doug
 - Since our last report, we have wrapped up the “Take a Brochure to your Doctor” campaign and started to focus on other areas.
 - We have recruited a small committee (four members to-date) and a small “speakers bureau” (four members to-date).
 - We have identified the following areas we wish to explore: Social Networking (Twitter, Face Book, MySpace, etc.), Advertising on Google, reaching out to hospitals, recovery facilities, churches, schools, gymnastic facilities, medical and social work faculties, and similar organizations in Middle Tennessee to offer a program featuring one or more of our speakers.
 - We also intend to become a presence at Health Fairs.
 - I am currently finishing up the recruiting and, when complete, will canvas committee members to find a suitable day and time to launch our committee’s work.
 - Robin M, who at one point chaired PI for three years, has kindly agreed to attend our first meeting to brief us on past efforts.
 - I would be pleased to hear from any other former PI Chairs.

- j. OA Literature - Linda B
Has reordered needed literature.

- k. AA Literature - Holly M.
Well stocked, will order when needed.

- l. IG Office Manager Chair – Peggy N.
 - drinks are selling well; will get some caffeine free drinks as well
 - boxes in small office to be unpacked the week of July 20th
 - still waiting on a used metal storage cabinet for small office storage
 - working on having slogans printed and framed for walls
 - Mail should be put on lateral files in small office. A basket could be put in the office for the bank statements.
 - Google Group – should have language that says do not reply to this email but just have a link to the person’s email.
 - Peggy reminded us to pass sign up list for Google group at each meeting.

11. COMMITTEE REPORTS (Continued)

- m. Notes of Hope –Nila B. (No report)
- n. Workshops – Open Chair
- o. Professional Outreach - Edith C. (No Report Filed)
- p. Designated Downloader (New Chair needed)
 - Anyone with Internet Access and a printer can do this monthly in a few minutes, downloading any announcements from oanashville.org, oaregion8.org and oa.org that we don't already have posted on the Bulletin Board or Announcements binder (which can be circulated during meetings).
- q. By-laws Committee / Becky M.
 - Better job descriptions are pending
- r. Retreat Committee - Teresa T.
 - Stephanie W. Treasurer announced a \$1,401.00 profit to MTI for the retreat held at Dubose Conference Center on May 15-17, 2009
 - \$346.28 made in Boutique for Barbara Lamb Scholarship
 - Bookmark (aka chance) made \$155.00 for Barbara Lamb Scholarship fund
 - Total in Barbara Lamb fund at this time is \$868.00.
 - BL fund is in interest-bearing account but service charges exceed interest; Stephanie W. will seek a free account.
 - Cautioned that margins will not be this favorable in 2010
 - Dubose did not charge as much as originally planned.
 - Used supplies/materials from previous year
- s. Webmaster – Tina R.
 - Need contact person for Friday 6pm meeting
 - Has started work on a new site.

Minutes taken by Deborah Wormley and submitted by Bonnie Reagan, Secretary.

*****Next meeting: Monday, August 17th at 6:30 PM*****