

St. Louis Bi-State Intergroup Minutes

September 12, 2021, 1:30 p.m.

Open: The meeting was called to order by Chair, Dianna S. at 1:30 p.m.

Communications: Meeting was held via ZOOM due to viral covid-19 pandemic precautions. Members were instructed on meeting ID and Password via email.

Readings: Serenity Prayer, The Twelve Steps, Traditions 8 and 9, Concepts 8 and 9

Welcome: 20 members in total were in attendance; all via ZOOM. Four BOT members (Treasurer and Secretary were unable to attend), two committee chairs, 12 IG representatives, one WSBC delegate, and one visitor. We welcome new IG rep, Mary Anne S., from the Saturday morning O'Fallon meeting #57059.

Minutes: July 11, 2021 IG minutes were distributed via email for review prior to the meeting. Minutes were approved as submitted.

Reports: Chairperson and committee reports were distributed via email for review prior to the meeting. The following information was added during the meeting:

- Marilyn F. corrected the report on literature sales figure from \$14 to \$38 which includes a \$15 donation
- Christina D. reported that yesterday she emailed to the IG mailing list an up-to-date version of the Area Event Schedule.
- Elizabeth C. reported that two meetings have closed, and three meetings have changed their meeting times
- Elizabeth C. reported that IG has changed phone service providers to a "Voice over Internet" service provided by Zoom; IG will experience a monthly savings because of the change; Dianne S. stated that IG typically receives five phone calls per month

Seventh Tradition and Roll Call: Participants were documented and signed in by Operations Administrator. Representatives were encouraged to be responsible to contribute for Seventh Tradition at [Products Page – Overeaters Anonymous – St. Louis \(stlouisoa.org\)](#). Our group number is 09029.

News from Groups:

- Paula Mari reported that the Tuesday afternoon "New Me" group wants to resume in-person meetings and is in talks with the church to work out the details.
- Elizabeth C. reported that the annual Holiday Booster, sponsored by the Sunday Morning St. Mary's meeting, has been changed from Dec. 4 to Dec. 11 this year; it will be held at the Webster Groves Christian Church on W. Lockwood.

New Business:

- Annual Fall Retreat
 - Elizabeth C. was nominated for 2021 Retreat Chair and gave a brief summary of her OA service over the years. Eighteen voting members were present at the time; she was elected unanimously
 - The Fall Retreat theme is "A Time of Reflection." The committee has met three times so far. The Zoom event is scheduled for Friday night, Nov. 5 and Saturday morning and afternoon on Nov. 6. Registration will be \$20 for all or any of the sessions. The committee is listening to recordings and will select keynote speakers for each of the three sessions
 - Flyer will be coming soon – please share with your groups
- Annual Business Conference, Sunday Nov. 14
 - Motions will be considered on Bylaw changes and Policy & Procedure changes; those documents are only changed if they go through this process.

- Submit motions to Chair or Secretary **before** Oct. 14
- All motions will be emailed to you in advance; please review them to be prepared for the meeting.
- Elections of IG officers, representatives, and delegates (Intergroup Service Team) will take place at the Conference
 - Open IG positions are: Chairperson, Secretary, Operations Administrator
 - There are four openings for Region 4 Representatives
 - There are two openings for World Service Business Conference delegates
 - Nomination forms are available on our website. Please submit forms to chair@stlouisoa.org
- The Treasurer has reported an increase in PayPal charges for contributions made to IG online. Members may consider donating quarterly or by check to help IG apply more of each donation toward carrying the message
- Traditionally, November is considered gratitude month in our IG. In the past groups have made special, extra collections, but on Zoom that is not possible. Reps can suggest that their members either increase their November donation or make an additional one
- The Vice-chair announced that we could use a group to sponsor an IDEA Day event (International Day Experiencing Abstinence) on the third weekend in November. We also need Chairpersons for the Spring 2022 Convention and the Fall 2022 Retreat
- Public Information – Dianne S. discussed the following:
 - Our Intergroup has a presence on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. For some time, Jennifer L. has been creating memes using imagery plus quotes from OA literature and posting them on these sites. IG received communication from the World Service Office (through our Region 4 Trustee) that we were in violation of copyright laws, and we have discontinued the practice.
 - WSO provided a list showing what OA materials may be screen shared and which may not. This applies to social media and onscreen during meetings. That list was emailed to IG participants on Sep. 7. Reps can refer to it to ensure that individual groups are not in violation of OA’s policy regarding screen sharing their material
 - Before using the OA quotes, IG could have applied to WSO for permission; we do not know whether it would have been granted
 - Copyright laws have a “Fair Use” clause that may or may not apply to our circumstances; among other things, the clause focuses on the purpose of use, the character of the use (commercial or not), the percentage of the complete material quoted, and the effect on the value of the original by its being quoted
 - Shall our Intergroup submit a formal motion to WSO asking them to reconsider the parameters of their policy? This motion, if it makes it through to consideration, would be voted on at the April 2022 World Service Business Conference
 - Are there alternative ways we can resume posting on social media without using OA-owned material?
- Public Information continued - Melanie T. announced the following:
 - Hand in Hand Directory – Volunteers will be calling people already on the list to verify/update. IG Reps should ask group members if someone would like to be added to the directory; if so, they can text Melanie T at 314-226-8686
 - PI can provide temporary sponsor training for your group if there is interest
 - New PI opportunity – A new IG committee is forming to reach out to hospitals, doctors, medical providers, etc. They would like members to provide leads in their geographic areas for institutions and individuals to be targeted. Text Melanie at 314-226-8686 if you want to be part of this committee
 - Actively recruiting new chair for Twelfth Step Within Committee. Text Melanie at 314-226-8686 to find out what this is and why it is important

Old Business:

- The Region 4 Annual Conference, Oct. 1 and 2, will be held on Zoom instead of here in St. Louis. Guests are welcome to attend. The local Super Saturday planned in conjunction with it has been canceled.

Workgroup: Sponsorship

Because time ran out, Dianne bumped the Workgroup to next month's meeting. The topic will be Sponsorship, focusing on one part of a sponsor's job which is to get sponsees involved in service. The group will brainstorm on this on Oct. 10.

Review: What needs to be announced in home meetings?

- Fall Retreat "A Time for Reflection," on Zoom, Nov. 5 & 6, pre-registration required, flyer coming soon
- Any suggested changes to our policies, procedures, or bylaws must be submitted by September 29, 2021 to meet the minimum review time of 45-days before the November 14, 2021 Annual Conference.
- Continue to track newcomer information on finding out about OA/meeting. Report information back to chair@stlouisoa.org
- Nominations for open service positions due by October 30, 2021
- Chairpersons needed for the Spring 2022 Convention and the Fall 2022 Retreat
- Newsletter articles are needed for upcoming newsletters. See Newsletter Chair Report for submission deadlines and topics.

The meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m. with the OA Promise.

Next Intergroup Meeting

Sunday, October 10, 2021 1:30 p.m.

Platform via ZOOM. Communications to follow.