

Greater Pittsburgh OA Intergroup Meeting Minutes

March 7, 2020 GPI Meeting held via Zoom

NEXT MEETINGS: April 11, June 6

NEXT Mailing, Literature Order & Deadline: unknown due to COVID-19

ROLL CALL: 17 people present (16 voting members)

3 Executive board: **Kristi K.** (Chair), **Linda A.** (Vice-Chair), **Ruth D.** (Treasurer)

6 Standing Chair(s)/Regional Reps/WSBC Delegates: **Beth C-R.** (12th Step Within), **Jessica F.** (Professional Outreach), **Donna G.** (Speakers), **Shawn N.** (VOR Editor), **Sheree C.** (Marathon), **Tricia S.** (Region 7 Rep)

7 Reps: **Jennie G.** (Mon 7:30p Brentwood), **Janet M** (Mon 7:30p Lower Burrell), **Dee C.** (Tue 7p Plum), **Kathi W.** (Wed 10a Pgh-E Liberty), **Gene M.** (Wed 6p Monesson), **Ethel H.** (Wed 7p Pgh-Greenfield), **Katie H.** (Wed 7:15p Franklin Park), **Elaine R.** (Thu 10a Aspinwall), **Judy D.** (Sat 9a Pgh-Shadyside), **Elaine T.** (Sat 10a Monroeville)

Ruth D. shared on Tradition 3. She spoke about how, in the 1990's, splinter groups sprang up within OA with other requirements for membership. Ruth stayed with OA because of this tradition and its only requirement being a desire to stop eating compulsively.

ANNIVERSARIES: Elaine T in OA since 2/15/1993, Linda A 36 years in OA / 35 years of abstinence

MINUTES: February minutes approved as amended

REPORTS: Two months of reports (February & March) reviewed as none were reviewed in February due to WSO agenda questions.

REPORTS (Executive Board):

Chair: reports reviewed, no questions

Vice-Chair: reports reviewed, no questions

Treasurer: reports & financials reviewed, Ruth has created a Master Binder for the treasurer, covering various duties and information needed for treasurer position. Annual Report was held for New Business. Ruth attended the IGRC conference.

REPORTS (Standing Committee Chairs):

12th Step Within: reports reviewed, absent, no questions

Professional Outreach: reports reviewed, no questions

Public Information: vacant, no report

Speakers: reports reviewed, Speaker meetings have been scheduled through June; future schedule will be discussed under new business, regarding Zoom or face-to-face after June.

VOR Editor: reports reviewed, appreciation was expressed for former editors and committee's work prior to Shawn's tenure. The Second Quarter VOR is ready for distribution.

Marathon: reports reviewed, discussion was held regarding the future of Chair position duties and the possibility of "farming out" other holidays, leaving the Chair and Committee primarily responsible for the retreat. Executive Board may discuss revamping chair positions and have both an "Events Chair" and a "Retreat Chair", and will look at ways to make the workload more balanced. For example, the Marathon Committee could be available to help host Zoom events that are primarily planned by the individual groups.

REPORTS (Other Trusted Servants):

Region 7 Representatives: reports reviewed, Tricia participated in the "Who's afraid of Intergroup Service"

event/workshop; Pittsburgh Intergroup had the highest attendance.

WSBC Delegates: vacant, no report

Webmaster/Administrator: reports reviewed, Jess is continuing work on Password protected pages, and goal is to continue work with Linda A. on P&P Manual updates.

OLD BUSINESS:

● **GPI Zoom Account**

- Login Credentials and procedures for Zoom account were formulated by the Executive Board and reviewed. Kristi will deal with the calendar entries for Zoom meetings, and Jess will get them put on the website. Chairs wishing to schedule Zoom use need to check both the Events calendar and the Service calendar to make sure there are no competing meetings.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Proposed GPI Meeting Dates:** July, August and September will still meet via Zoom was approved, and the Speaker Meeting following GPI business meeting will continue to meet on Zoom through September.
- **GPI Speaker Meeting:** Donna needs help/volunteers for the Speaker meeting. Using Zoom there are three positions to fill each month: Speaker, Meeting Leader, and Host. Anyone available, please contact Donna G. to volunteer.
- **Annual Financial Report:**
 - Second paragraph, request was made to correct wording
 - Contributions went up from 2019-2020
 - Paypal contributions have increased
 - Retreat refunds: \$1,000 of the refunds were donated to the general fund and \$295 were designated to the Scholarship fund
 - Request was made to change the wording under Group Contributions to correct grammar
 - Question was asked about whether groups not meeting had affected contributions? Ruth answered that contributions have remained stable and expenses have decreased
 - Finance committee recommended sending a \$2,000 contribution to WSO
 - Motion to approve report as amended was approved.
- **Young Person's Survey from WSO:** Questionnaire was worked on using Survey Monkey. WSO was asking about younger people in the 18-30 age range. As we ran out of time, the decision was to defer to the Executive Board to finish the questionnaire.

ASK IT BASKET/GROUP CONCERNS:

Not discussed due to lack of time

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

None.

Meeting adjourned

GPI Reports for 3/7/2021

VACANT: Public Info, Region 7 Reps-3 / Alts-2, WSBC Delegates-3 / Alts-2

Chair (Kristi K):February

- Prepped for March GPI meeting
- Cleaned out Chair, Ex Officio and Executive Board mailboxes
- Attended and wrote up meeting notes from the 2/21 Executive Board conference call
- Attended the R7 workshop on Intergroup Renewal

Chair (Kristi K): March Goals

- Be available to Standing Chairs
- Clean out mailboxes
- Prep agenda for and facilitate monthly Executive Board conference call
- Prep for April GPI meeting
- Work on draft outline for leadership orientation

Vice-Chair (Linda A): February

- Shared Policy and Procedures Manual report briefly with Executive Board
- Attended Marathon Committee Meeting
- Attended Executive Board conference call
- Attended R7 workshop on Intergroup Renewal
- Cleaned out mailboxes

Vice-Chair (Linda A): March Goals

- Discuss Policy and Procedures Manual report at next Executive Board Meeting
- Coordinate with Webmaster the writing of Amendment to Policies and Procedures Manual concerning making changes to the PNP immediately without double approval by the body of GPI.
- Attend Marathon Committee Meetings when called
- Clean out mailboxes
- Attend Executive Board conference call

Treasurer (Ruth D): February

- Cleaned out Treasurer and Finance Committee (FC) mailboxes
- Paid all bills
- Deposited group contributions & was available to facilitate electronic donations by groups
- Updated spreadsheet, reconciled spreadsheet with bank statement
- Attended Executive Board Zoom Call
- Created a Master GPIOA Binder with all important documents and account instructions

Treasurer (Ruth D): March Goals

- Clean out Treasurer and Finance Committee mailboxes
- Continue to receive and (distribute where appropriate) mail from PO Box
- Pay all bills and deposit group contributions and other receipts
- Update spreadsheet, reconcile bank statement with spreadsheet
- Attend Executive Board conference call
- Be available to facilitate electronic donations by groups
- Present 2020 Annual Report to GPIOA
- Complete IRS Form 990 electronically

12th Step Within (Beth R): February

- Cleaned email boxes
- Found speaker, Zoom info and host for Spring Workshop, sent Flyer to Jess
- Began discussion of Fun Not Food Picnic, Fall Workshop, Sponsorship Day

12th Step Within (Beth R): March Goals

- Set dates for future events
- Plan late summer workshop & fall picnic
- Clean email boxes

Professional Outreach (PO-Jessica F): February

- Committee member cleaned out email boxes

- Reviewed Region 7 Young Persons Survey

Professional Outreach (PO-Jessica F): March Goals

- Committee member to clean out mailboxes
- (future goal) See if any PI committee members are interested in helping w/PO & schedule meeting
- (future goal) Determine PI/PO schedule for remainder of my term & which events should be handled by each committee
- (future goal) Deliver literature orders to groups for Adopt a Rack if groups reopen for live meetings

Speakers Bureau (Donna G): February

- Cleaned out committee mailboxes
- Confirmed speakers for meetings already set

Speakers Bureau (Donna G): March Goals

- Get clarification about whether meetings beyond June will be via Zoom
- Obtain speakers, hosts, and leaders beyond the June meeting
- Confirm with Denver group the April speaker we are providing to them; ask them about providing speakers for later part of 2021

VOR (Shawn N): February

- Cleaned out mailboxes
- Held committee meeting on February 20
- Compiled stories for 2nd Quarter issue “The Power of Change” / 10 separate submissions
- Circulated multiple drafts

VOR (Shawn N): March Goals

- Finalize 2nd Quarter issue
- Submit issue to World Service
- Circulate issue to other Region 7 IGs
- Identify other OA IG Newsletters with original content

Marathon (Sheree C): February

- Held Committee meeting February 11
- Hosted OA Unity Day Celebration on Zoom February 28. Meeting was well attended, with a maximum of 32 logged in at one time. Was available to help members with login problems or issues.
- Worked with committee members to finalize speakers, schedule and plans for March Retreat.
- Scheduled Zoom events and committee meetings. Next committee meeting is March 4, 2021.
- Cleaned out all email boxes.

Marathon (Sheree C): March Goals

- Chair committee meeting March 4, 2021 to finalize retreat speakers and schedule of events.
- Chair one post-retreat committee meeting to debrief, before adjourning until early Fall.
- Host & help conduct GPI Annual Retreat March 12-14, 2021
- Finalize Retreat speakers, schedule of events and assigned Retreat positions
- Continue to search for a new Marathon chair for this fall.

Region 7 Representatives (Tricia S): February

- Cleaned out all mailboxes
- Attended Region 7 Virtual IGRC meeting: 2-2-21 & 2-9-21
- IGRC Meetings: handled details for Feb 21st Workshop
- Workshop: Who’s Afraid of IG Service? 2-21-21

25 attended, four speakers, time for writing and sharing. Three members of GPIOA attended.

Speaker 1: Learned to face fears and shame messages. Gained self-confidence. As an IG Chair she tried to

remind. IG members of our Primary Purpose to bring Unity to their efforts. Also, learned the principle of Principles before Personalities.

Speaker 2: Dealt with childhood messages: “I can’t do that” or “I’m not good enough.” Learned to take risks by helping fellowship in service. “Service is a life boat, not an anchor.”

Speaker 3: Shared what done in her IG: did an IG Inventory at a picnic for officers; defined role of Chair to energize, mobilize members; created a flyer titled “Did you know”(an overview of IG) to disseminate to every group/meeting and on IG website; after IG meeting sent an email to each meeting Secretary with information about IG; sent reminders of events 1-2 times especially the day before; to avoid arguments, the principles were read at beginning of IG meeting noting “if we all agreed, we wouldn’t all be necessary”; reviewed Handbook for IG by members taking turns presenting brief explanation of a section to IG; promoted committee surveys of members and group anniversary meetings, reminded members to individually invite their spouses and other group members to attend IG and to volunteer for a specific chore for IG.

Speaker 4: At first only 4 people at IG. Sent a newsletter explaining the why and how of IG and had 16 IG members in 4 months. They asked 3 questions: Do you have the time? Do you have the health? Do you have the desire? Benefits of this service: get around others in Recovery and Abstinence; helped in professional life (speak in group setting); learned Humility and to be a Consultant Leader; saying “yes” opens many new opportunities.

Writing Exercise asked the following questions:

1. Share your greatest success and/or failure
2. What fears did you confront through service?
3. How did service help you work on/surrender character defects?
4. In what ways were the Traditions and Concepts helpful in this service?

Region 7 Representatives (Tricia S): March Goals

- Clean out three mailboxes
- Prepare for Region 7 Assembly
- Attend Region 7 Assembly on 3-19 thru 21-2021
- Work on assignment at IGRC meeting in Assembly

GPI Webmaster/Administrative Special Worker (Jessica F): February

- Website, gpioa.org email aliases, database & online archive current, pairList active, WSO meeting list up to date, continuing work with Technical Committee, checked voicemail & sent out meeting packets:
 - 2021 1 sent: 1 Jan (as of 2/28/2021)
- Sent out all GPI emails re: upcoming events & announcements
- Attended Exec Board meeting
- Prepared for March GPI meeting: created reporting document, compiled GPI minutes, cleaned email boxes & sent monthly reminder, posted documents online

GPI Webmaster/Administrative Special Worker (Jessica F): March Goals

- Keep website, gpioa.org email aliases, database & online archive current, continue work w/Tech Committee re: WSO meeting list, clean out email boxes, check voicemail regularly & send out meeting lists as needed
- (March) Continue work on password protected online archive page on GPI website
- (March or April) Work on PnP Manual & Bylaw amendments with Linda A (particularly how to handle GPI Zoom Account, pairList approvals)
- (April) Work with Executive Board on contingency planning issues such as approving all-GPI emails and how to best delegate some of my administrative tasks
- (future goal) Find a Tech Committee member to add GPI events to the Region 7 events online calendar (as of 7/30/2020, the WSO events calendar has disappeared -- it’s now on the official OA facebook page, and posting events there could compromise anonymity -- all GPI flyers are anonymous, but it’s not clear if when we post an event the person posting it has to compromise their anonymity, or if we then open up

the possibility for random people to break their own anonymity by saying they'll attend as people usually do with Facebook events)

- (future goal) review GPI physical documents & scan for online archive