

Unity Intergroup (UIG) Meeting Minutes – July 13, 2024

Attendees

UIG Trusted Servants:

Sarah S., IG Vice Chair; Jean K., IG Treasurer; Vicki M., IG Newsletter Editor; Cathy G., IG web coordinator & WSBC delegate; Amy D., WSBC delegate, Bylaws, Literature

IG Reps:

Susan M., Sherica, Jon W-K., Cheryl W., Joe W., Lou L., Rita L., Judy M., Lauraine E., Barb, Cathy W.

Welcome:

1. Introductions
2. Tradition 7 – Joe W. shared about Tradition 7.
3. Review June Minutes – Cathy G. moved to accept June minutes; second by Lou L. June minutes approved.
4. June Treasurer's Report:
 - Fiscal Year July 1 – June 30 so this represents the full year. Some expenses get paid quarterly or annually. Reserve account of \$15,000 as prudent reserve. Operating account has \$34,982 in it. Totals for the year show a net loss because of a large contribution to World Service when we had excess cash on hand from years of lower expenses due to pandemic limitations on events.
 - Joe W. moved to accept the report; second by Rita. June Treasurer's report approved.
 - Last month approved a budget for 2024-2025. Betty updated the final 2023-2024 budget numbers. Income was a little higher than budgeted and expenses were also a little higher than budgeted. If not for the 1-time contribution to World Service, we would have been within expected budget. As is, we are showing an overall loss. 2023-2024 final numbers and 2024-2025 approved budget will be posted on website.
5. Newsletter: Vicki is our newsletter editor. The following groups signed up to write articles for the upcoming months:
 - August: Wednesday PM Joan of Arc meeting (Vicki M)
 - September: Tuesday AM in-person HOW meeting (Karen NP)

- October: Tuesday Shakopee meeting (Joe)
- November: Brothers in Recovery Sunday night group (Lou)
- Submit articles to RecoveryVM23@gmail.com

6. Intergroup Business:

- Elected positions - Still have openings for three Region 5 reps, and two more World Service delegates.
 - Next World Service meeting will be held by Zoom. Makes it more accessible. It is very interesting and you meet a lot of people. New literature is approved every 7 years. Strengthens recovery to be involved. Encourage people to be involved.
 - Requires 1 year of abstinence and 2 years of service beyond the group level (intergroup or region level)
- Additional coordinator service positions available:
 - Big Book Study chair
 - Zoom meeting manager
- Every group can have 2 intergroup reps. Encourage your groups to send people. Must have 3 months experience with Unity Intergroup meetings to be elected to officer positions.
- Make region-level 7th tradition donations to Region 5.
- Amy attended last WSBC. It was an amazing experience. 11 regions attended. Many OA organizations across the globe are having a drop in volunteers. These were the decisions made at WSBC:
 - Conference seal of approval given to new OA Handbook (can't sell outdated editions anymore)
 - WSBC delegates can serve 6 consecutive years
 - You can have another person speak for you (for any reason)
 - Every other year alternating in-person and video conferencing
 - Updating wording to eliminate need for frequent updates
 - Defining eligibility and how to fill vacancies
 - A registered service body must submit motions for consideration (vs an individual)
 - Eliminated requirement for region experience to be a WSO officer because international organizations don't have regions
 - Lots of discussion about holidays when they fall at the same dates as WSBC events. They will do their best to not schedule on major holidays.

- The decisions above may prompt some changes to our intergroup bylaws. Amy will be looking into it.
- Amy talked about discussions at WSBC about how to encourage diversity in OA and in OA leadership. Everyone is having challenges figuring it out, but even having discussions about it is helpful.

7. Events/Committee reports:

- Registration for Unity Intergroup 2024 Convention will open in approximately mid-August.
- Quick Steps – Virtual workshop scheduled for Nov 9th and 23rd. If you have people in your group looking to move through the steps quickly, it is a great resource.
- Region 5 Convention Sept. 6-8 in Cleveland. Hope some local people will attend.

8. Announcements/Action Items:

- OA.org website is translating material using AI (such as Chat Bot). Looking for “translation collaborators” to review copy and checking to see if bots are translating correctly. A new form of service.
- Region 4 – the only thing left in shutting it down is closing the bank account. Remaining funds will be sent to World Service. It has been painful to see Region 4 closing.

9. Committee meetings:

- Public Information/Professional Outreach (PIPO)
 - Sherica researched the process of getting CEU accreditation for OA presentations we might give to nurses. Apparently, the board of nursing doesn’t review submissions. Sherica brought up the question of marketing, specifically how we would promote an OA presentation to health care professionals.
 - Board of Nursing requirements:
 - Outline goals of session
 - Explain how learning will be measured
 - Next steps: Sherica will search for Board of Nursing templates. Cathy will ask contacts at Lifespark how they get their sessions CEU-accredited. Cathy will reach out to Region 5 to ask if they’ve developed any PPT presentations for professionals.
 - Jon is pursuing inroads with psychologists but needs a solid PPT deck that includes data from the OA survey. Jon is also looking into educational institutions (ex: St. Mary’s, St. Thomas) that train psychologists to see if we/OA could present to students. Jon brought up large corporations (UHC,

3M) that have their own medical directors who might be interested in lower cost alternatives to weight loss surgery.

- Twelfth Step Within
 - No action items this month

Respectfully submitted,

Liz Z. Secretary