

Minutes
OA Southern Maine Intergroup (SMI) Meeting
Saturday, March 5, 2016 at 11:30am-12:45pm
CMMC Lewiston, ME

Present:

George H., 12stepgeorge@gmail.com, 974-9626, Chair, interim Treasurer

Joyce, joyce.menges@gmail.com, IG registrar

Trish V., trishv301@gmail.com, 219-8622, Vice Chair

Robin, robin.L.schulte@gmail.com, Portland Sat. meeting IR

Pat, pdagomes@gmail.com 207-353-2432

Ashley, ashley.moser@yahoo.com 207-449-9944, guest from Lewiston meeting (welcome!!)

Cheryl, cherylofbath@yahoo.com, 386-1740, Brunswick Sun. meeting IR and Region 6 rep

Quinn B., peacefulquinn@gmail.com, 443-4630, Brunswick Thurs. meeting IR, interim secretary

1. Opening and introductions

- A. Serenity prayer, OA's 12 steps and 12 traditions, OA's 12 concepts read.
- B. all in attendance introduced themselves and shared their affiliations

2. Reports

- A. Secretary: Interim secretary was appointed. Quinn volunteered.
- B. Treasurer *pro tem*: Treasurer's report was submitted by George.
- C. Retreat: No reps were in attendance, but the committee is working on a list of potential speakers, submitted by George.
- D. Region rep: nothing to report yet.
 - a. Spring Assembly Packet was received by Cheryl. Intergroup will be reserving one room instead of two, since we currently have one Region representative.
 - b. Discussion about Cheryl sharing the drive with her spouse. There were no objections. Cheryl will check with hotel to see if additional funds are needed for another person to share the room. Thoughts were raised to give some dollars if needed, but tabled until we have more information about room rates.
- E. Public Info event: Trish reported that the event is all ready to go on March 12th 1:30-3:00pm at Mercy Hospital. Speakers, place, hospitality, information all set up.
 - a. Trish will use the most recent meeting list to remind OAs of the meeting. All members are encouraged to advertise!
- F. Chair: OAMaine.org website events up to date, and George is limiting the number of events to stay in keeping with the formatting of the page - not to exceed the background color for aesthetic reasons.

3. Old business

- A. Vacant offices
 - a. Treasurer: names were mentioned, but no one has come forward. It was agreed that the Treasurer must attend Intergroup meetings as an Officer. The position

takes hour at most per month for depositing, reconciling, balancing, etc. Mobile banking is available.

- b. 2nd Region 6 Representative: The position has 2 meetings per year in Albany, NY, is a member of a Committee that has additional responsibilities, agrees to take the position for 2 years, and has the opportunity to meet 60+ people from around the area that wouldn't normally be met!
 - c. Retreat committee rep: It was brought up that the committee needs to have a rep to attend IG meetings either physically or electronically to keep us posted on progress.
 - d. Intergroup registrar: keeps the OA Maine meeting list current for our IG area. Duties include: checking the contacts once per quarter for every meeting. seeing if the meeting lists between the paper copy and OA.org coordinate. This is a very important job; arguably the reason IG is here: to connect people with meetings! Quinn volunteered if no one else could be found.
- B. Website update : George is striving to get the Minutes on OAMaine.org, from the current meeting going back to 2015ish. Events are up to date with appropriate links: Spring Assembly, World Service Conference, etc, and he'll keep them up to date so the most recent event is at the top of the list. The meeting list is on the website, as well as being downloadable.
- a. Pat went to the OAMaine.org website to donate and make contributions, and found that it was very hard / impossible to find donation contributions links. George will make a clearer contribution link.
 - b. Joyce suggested changing the background to make it easier to read. The contrast between the words and background isn't easy to read, especially with the font. George will make a white text box with black print for reading clarity, and the images may change later.
- C. Conference call device update - Cheryl will bring us up to date on hardware her work office uses for conference calling for next time.

4. New business

- A. The Intergroup Questionnaire needs to be sent back to World Service.
 - a. George will send it to the meetings through google groups. We fill them out and George will compile the answers.
 - b. World Service agenda items need to be submitted and voted upon. This is a huge deal! The questionnaire is the bridge between each member of OA at the meeting level and the World Service level. One item on the agenda is the question of how to handle social media, and OA's presence on places such as Facebook and Twitter!
- B. Fall event calendar: what do we want to accomplish for next year - marathon, public info day, IDEA, etc?
- C. World Service Conference - we are going to look into chartering a bus to the event, either for one or two days, from the Portland area to the conference in Boston and back again the same day.

- a. Cheryl looked into the train, but the times aren't good, and there still needs to be transportation from the train station to the event area.
 - b. Ashley asked about staying overnight, and there is a room mate list online.
 - c. Cheryl will look into chartering a bus - costs, etc.
- D. It was decided to not schedule other events in September and focus instead on drumming up interest in the Convention
- E. It was decided to host IDEA Day at Mercy Hospital again in November. Same place in the 3rd week in Nov. will bring continuity and visibility for new people.
- F. Cheryl spoke up for hosting an event for Unity day - last Saturday in February - and having it in Lewiston.
 - a. Vary locations to get potentially varied people as well.
 - b. George suggested to invite Central Maine Intergroup as well.
 - c. Cheryl will look at booking the room in Lewiston. The thought was to have it in the afternoon to keep the Saturday morning meeting separate from the Unity Day Celebration to reduce conflict. The cafeteria isn't open, and people would need to bring lunch, but microwave and sink may be available.
 - d. Beverages could be provided.
- G. Joyce brought up the local pamphlet/book "How Miracles Happen" to be used in meetings. It is not conference approved literature (CAL), and she looked into making the piece locally approved, but World Service rejected the proposal. They did, however, say that it could be listed as CAL if some edits were made to the text, and if we could get permission from AA to adapt and use it. There was no response from AA until two days before the IG meeting. Nothing has been decided yet, but she's very interested in being instrumental in going through the process to making it CAL through the required channels. Bravo!
- H. Pat brought up opening the IG google group to people who aren't in Intergroup (yet). The group is open, but private, so interested people need to ask to join, but there are no restrictions or requirements to be a part of the google group. All are welcome!
- I. Quinn will send the "invitation to Intergroup" message to the IG to be edited, then it will be sent to individual meetings.