

Southwestern Connecticut Intergroup

APPROVED MINUTES of Jan. 20, 2010

Present: Yelisa R., Zazu G., Charlotte W., Susan R., Ruth M., Kitty L., Laura B., Bob B., Linda S., Jeanneth W.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chair Yelisa R. following the Serenity prayer.

I. Reports

A. Recording secretary: Ruth M. presented the minutes of the Nov. 18, 2009 meeting, which were reviewed and approved with a minor correction. Susan volunteered to take this evening's minutes as we have no recording secretary.

B. Corresponding secretary: Zazu G. reported that we received World Service information including a few copies of the new LIFE LINE which she distributed, packets for WSO Representatives and a notification that after this year no more literature catalogues would be printed by WSO. Members can still order literature by going to the online catalogue at the OA website. Zazu also reported that this being the 50th birthday of OA, that we are encouraged to send "Birthday donations" to WSO. **Zazu will scan the front of the OA anniversary envelope and send it in the next mailing as a reminder to all groups that they can make birthday donations to WSO.** Individual donations celebrating years of abstinence or number of pounds lost or every year in OA in dollar amounts are very welcomed and encouraged!

C. Treasurer's Report: Zazu reported that we have \$3,141.94 in spendable cash in our treasury. She reminded us that this amount will be needed to send our two World Service representatives to New Mexico in April. Zazu commended Judith K. from Danbury for her volunteering to make OA magnets, as they generated \$48.00. **Yelisa encouraged members to lend their craft-making talents to making items that can be sold and generate funds for World Service and Region 6 delegate expenses.** Treasurer's report was approved as presented.

D. Public Information/Public Outreach: MOTION: made, seconded and unanimously passed to approve purchasing OA pens for dissemination at events. Zazu reported that we received the OA pens to be utilized in "advertising" OA at town events, marathons and other OA activities. Charlotte will give pens to Earl of the Tuesday Guilford meeting for distribution at an upcoming Guilford Health Fair. Zazu distributed pens to all present IG members. Thanks to Zazu for following up on this task! **Group Representatives are reminded to continue to research local events that we can be involved with for disseminating information about OA.**

Telephone and website report: Zazu reported that 2009 annual phone calls was 64 and website hits were 2,521. Discussion ensued regarding the possibility of using a TRACPHONE at the cost of \$100 for 1,000 minutes in place of the current phone line. It could be money saving for our expenses. An ad hoc Voicemail Committee was formed to investigate the feasibility of this idea. Committee members include Bob, Linda, and Jeanneth.

II. Old Business

A. Status of SWCT Intergroup Review of Finances - At our last meeting Maureen reported on the review she and Wendy did for us. **Yelisa will request a written report from Maureen for our next regularly scheduled meeting.**

B. Stipend for IG Administrative position as per Tradition 8: At our last meeting we discussed having a paid position for Treasurer and Corresponding secretary combined as an administrative position. Zazu had agreed to continue in this position, taking on the duties of both executive positions until volunteers could be elected. Current discussion led to this **MOTION: A stipend of \$100 per month will be paid to Zazu G. for administrative tasks related to the positions of Treasurer and Corresponding Secretary until these positions can be filled by elected volunteers . Motion seconded and passed unanimously.** Further discussion centered around our By-Laws and insuring newly elected volunteers meet the criteria for filling an executive position on IG: For example, abstinence requirements

and length of time as IG representative.

Charlotte noted Zazu's length of service and willingness to do so many tasks for Intergroup over many years. Intergroup acknowledges and appreciates all Zazu's work and emphasizes the need for others to "step up to the plate" and volunteer.

III. New Business

A. Committee formation – Chair Yelisa called for volunteers to fill committees and charged each committee to elect a chairperson for that committee. This task was completed and a new listing of committee members will be distributed with these minutes. An AD HOC Voicemail Committee was formed to look into ways to minimize cost to IG. Members are Bob, Linda and Jeanneth.

B. Group outreach (Service Survey, distribution & explanation of Intergroup brochure): Yelisa requested that we survey OA groups in order to determine what gets in the way of members volunteering for Intergroup representative. **Yelisa and Susan will work on possible survey questions.** Bob requested information about the possibility of virtual IG meetings. This will be looked into. Our new venue of meeting place has Wi-Fi capabilities. Many thanks to Charlotte for researching and obtaining this new venue!

C. Review of recommendations from former Corresponding Secretary for Intergroup Changes:

After group discussion the following resulted:

- We will continue mailings to professionals as these have been requested by the professionals. It is just one way for us to "get the word out" fairly inexpensively.

- We will continue to revise the schedule of meetings on an as needed basis since it is revised online immediately. We feel accurate updating as soon as possible is critical to get the word out to newcomers. We will continue to send the list to GR's for each meeting for their checking and revising as well as publication for their groups.

-The recommendation to have the entire IG work on one service committee task at a time was tabled pending how our committees work fares.

- Holding IG meetings monthly was defeated. Bob will look into the possibility of virtual meetings to determine if we should have monthly meetings in the future.

V. Recap of items Group Reps should report to their groups:

- Two Shelton Meetings are closing but a new meeting is starting. Materials and books will be donated for other group use. A new meeting will begin in Milford.

- The Tuesday Guilford meeting was sending a special donation to WSO as their group's first anniversary thanksgiving gift and encourages other groups to do so. Suggestions of amounts include: number of pounds lost, number of years an individual has been abstinent (or days or months!) or number of years an individual has been in OA.

- Chairpersons and other members of committees can be solicited from home groups.

Chairs of PI and By-Laws Committees are needed.

- **Unity Day – February 28th It is requested that everyone say the Serenity Prayer that day at 11:30 PST, 2:30 p.m. our time.**

Seventh Tradition collected at this meeting was \$16.00.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:35p.m. with the Serenity Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Rosengrant