

REGION 7 ASSEMBLY REPORT
Submitted by Sima M., CJIOA Rep'
MARCH 9-11, 2018
THE INN AT READING

This was my first Region 7 Assembly. I felt welcome and useful immediately. After checking in to the room and getting settled, a large group of us went to a Thai restaurant (a type of food that was new to me). Trusting in my HP, as is my usual practice, I found great food choices which matched my needs. The food was exceptionally (and surprisingly) delicious as well as meticulously prepared and served. Some of the people I knew from intergroup and special celebrations I have attended. Additionally, I was triply fortunate to be seated right next to my green dot partner who is also the current Region 7 treasurer and who was chairing the Finance Committee, which I was assigned to.

My Finance committee report: Since there is no Chair or Vice Chair of this committee, the R7 Treasurer and Board Liaison to this committee is acting as chair for now. There are only three committee members all of whom were in attendance, as well as one participating visitor. Two of the three committee members, myself included, are new to this committee.

We tabled an unfinished business item since it did not need further action at this time. We addressed several items of new business. Our acting chair will update the Treasurer's duties in the R7 Policy Manual. Our committee recommended and approved an Administrative Motion for the R7 Business Meeting that the Assembly contribute \$5,000 to WSO. One member will take responsibility for keeping and distributing Region 7 journals for purchase by OA members. One member, with the assistance of the visitor, will draft instructions as a guide for new Intergroup Treasurers. One member will write an article for R7 Speaks. It was a very productive meeting.

We ended by attempting to have elections. Our committee needs a chair, a vice chair and a secretary. Due to the small membership on this committee there was no one who stepped up. I volunteered to act as secretary at this meeting. We asked our acting chair, who as Region 7 Treasurer is a member of the board, to request that more members be assigned to the Finance Committee. We also decided to have a follow-up conference call meeting on April 9th at 7:30 pm.

On Saturday, the general business meeting was exciting to me and went very well. Our Committee motion for Assembly to send \$5,000 to WSO was made and approved. On Saturday, I also got to meet one of my virtual sponsees, who is a Region 7 rep from the Baltimore area. She joined in at dinner with all of us CJIOA reps.

The general business meeting on Sunday morning was preceded by a "train the trainer" workshop on virtual meetings. This was of great interest to me since I am a devoted member of several virtual meetings. Then there were two mock motions the first of which was the motion from CJl on including in OA those who are considering or have had bariatric surgery. This has been a point of major contention within our World Service Organization and has discouraged many potential members who back out after attempting to join or never join in the first place. There were three other motions, all dealing with varying the days of OA's special celebrations (Unity Day, Idea Day and Sponsorship Day) between Saturdays and Sundays. Proposals to have some of the wording changed were approved. I attempted to offer an additional change to the wording of those motions. I learned that the opportunity for that to happen had passed according to Robert's Rules, as I attempted to understand and learn the differences among the various Robert's Rules of addressing the meeting. All the mock motions were approved by a majority vote.

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continued - Sima's March 2018 Region 7 Assembly Report

The last item on the agenda was the "green dot" graduation which included me. That was a very nice ceremony, however, they need to make the green dots easier to remove from the badges. (Amusingly, mine, as well as the one of the woman standing next to me, stubbornly refused to come off.)

I am grateful for the opportunity to serve at the Region 7 level and look forward to the next Assembly. I felt productive and was proud to contribute in my own way.

I thought the food and the accommodations at the Inn were satisfactory and would not object if, for any reason, we must go there again.

Respectfully submitted,

Sima M.

CJIOA Region 7 Assembly Rep'