

OA CJI (Central Jersey Intergroup)
Monthly Meeting – August 12, 2022
MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by the Chair, Danielle, after a moment of silence and the Serenity Prayer. The Unity with Diversity policy, OA's Tradition 8 and Concept 8 were read by Danielle, and she discussed the 8th Tradition in detail and the Spiritual Principle of fellowship.

INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Danielle introduced herself and asked all attendees below to introduce themselves:

- Alex (Freehold/Monday), Donna (Flemington), Barbara (Treasurer), Bobbi (Corresponding Secretary, Jackson/Friday), Elaine (Lakehurst/Tuesday), Frank (Red Bank/Thursday), Jo (Visitor /Sidney, Australia), Lucille (Recording Secretary, Asbury Park/Monday), Mikey (Chair Outreach, East Brunswick/Monday), Lusk (Pine Beach/Thursday), Marty (Lawrence Harbor/Sunday), Marybeth (Red Bank/Saturday), Robin B. (Webmaster, Saturday AM), Ross (WSBC Delegate, Jackson/Wednesday), Sima (Cranford/Saturday), Steve (Thursday PM).

REVIEW OF LAST MONTH'S MINUTES

Marybeth advised there was something missing on Page 4 in the first paragraph therefore the minutes could not be approved. Frank noted that the minutes indicated he was supposed to do a report on how to get a virtual Treasurer, but he does not have a report ready now but will have it next month.

PAMPHLET PROJECT

Danielle reported there was no one to present a pamphlet project, therefore she asked Jo if she would do a short 5-minute qualification. Jo agreed and talked about her experience, strength and hope in the OA program.

Danielle spoke about the OA Intergroup Principles and Strategic Goals.

OFFICERS REPORTS

Danielle reported that she renewed the OA logo for another 2 years and it should also be used on all flyers that are sponsored by the Central Jersey Intergroup. Ross added how important it is to include the logo on our flyers and that he or Danielle would be happy to send it to anyone who wants or needs it. Danielle also advised that we should not be using any copyrighted images or information from OA or any other organization. She mentioned using Shutterstock.com, or other free sources from the internet. Danielle stated that CJI won free registration to the Region 7 Fall assembly at the Spring assembly so if you are a representative planning to attend just send a receipt for the \$35.00 to our Treasurer (Barbara) and CJI will reimburse you. She also requested that everyone please bring a friend to the next CJI meeting as we need more hands-on deck and the more the merrier.

VICE CHAIR

Nick was unable to attend this meeting to give the Vice Chair report.

TREASURER

Barbara advised our last month was pretty good for income and we brought in \$1,125. approximately, which is a little above average. She stated a lot of it was through Pay Pal, which makes it very easy. Barbara confirmed CJI contributed an extra \$2,000 contribution to Region 7, as well as an extra \$2,000 to the World Service Organization. She also mentioned there was some Treasury expenses due to needing stamps, envelopes, printer ink, etc., plus there was a website charge that Robin B had taken care of. So there were over \$4,200. in expenses as a result of all of these amounts but we should be good for a while.

RECORDING SECRETARY

Lucille stated there was no report at this time but asked if during the introductions everyone would please include the location of the meeting they are representing and not just the day/time.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

Bobbi reported the Pine Beach Thursday meeting has new contact phone information, the Asbury Park Monday night meeting has moved inside the church building to an air-conditioned room, and the Freehold Monday meeting is now online.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Robin B. reported the website is running smoothly but she did have an issue and needs to remember we have a firm located in Highland Park that is on retainer and sends her a monthly report documenting what they are doing to keep our website healthy. Robin didn't know how to solve the problem and reached out to them, and it was resolved in 30 minutes, plus they showed her what to do so she learned something. The charge for our use of the CJI website needs to be paid annually and she took care of it. Ross asked if the CJI flyers could be placed first on our website rather than listing them by date. Robin agreed to make this change and move things around.

Mikey stated the Literature event, which will be discussed later in detail, is considered an Outreach event because the money is coming from the Outreach budget. The Outreach Committee will have a regular presentation during this event, but there are no other plans for an event in the near future.

Frank stated there is no report on the Twelve Step Within Committee at this time.

NEWS FROM REGION 7

Lee Ann was not in attendance, but Danielle reported the Region 7 Fall Assembly at Bon Secor on September 16-18 is in-person and the Region 7 Convention is November 4-6 in Ocean City, MD and the flyer is posted on our website, and you can register now.

NEWS - WORLD SERVICE ORGANIZATION (WSO)

Mikey asked if he could wait until the September meeting to give a report on the result of an Emergency Motion. Ross advised he has served 2 terms as the delegate for the WSBC and is rotating out. He also continues to serve on the By-Laws Sub-Committee until the next conference and has worked on a checklist with other members and they will be submitting it for approval soon. He further reported the event

calendar is now up on the OA.org website, so CJJ and other groups can also post events there for a worldwide audience. Also, updated OA literature is now available on the OA bookstore, such as the new version of Voices of Recovery which is not really changed other than quotes from first edition.

INSURANCE

Danielle stated that she and Mikey should talk offline about doing an annual insurance review.

WAYS & MEANS

A meeting is supposed to be done in September and the Treasurer (Barbara) and Danielle, plus the previous Treasurer (Alex) will attend.

LITERATURE EVENT

Mikey reported on the Literature Disbursal Action Team (Ross, Robin Bobbi, Mikey) have created a plan of action to get rid of most of the OA literature. Any out-of-date material will be provided at no cost and the current literature available for sale will be \$5 each. Other items such as pens, flashlights, etc., will also be given away for free. Ross stated that he will be taking any leftover literature (other than what Mikey needs for Outreach), and he will now house it. He will also be bringing some shirts for \$5 as well. Additional literature events are being planned near Ross in Jackson and also in South Jersey. Danielle encouraged everyone to come and take some literature and share it with libraries, doctors' offices, etc. Mikey mentioned the flyer is posted on the CJJ website and there is no 7th Tradition donation required.

OA EVENTS/HOLIDAYS

- **Sponsorship Day** – Alex reported the flyer is on the website “Sail into Recovery” on August 21st via Zoom 12:00-2:30 pm. There will be 3 speakers talking about different styles of sponsoring – a seasoned sponsor, a new sponsor and sponsoring across the ocean. Also, 3 panelists will answer a pre-provided set of 6 questions.
- **Idea Day** – Ross asked if anything has been finalized regarding a location as he would like to suggest Jackson. Danielle stated she wasn't aware of anything and he should contact the Committee to discuss. Also, asked if it could be a hybrid event but Ross indicated that may be difficult and if held on a Saturday realizes for religious reasons it would not include Lakewood.
- **Together We Can Recover Retreat** – Bobbi reported it is live on September 10th in Neptune. There are 3 speakers confirmed and she is looking for maybe 2 more. One of our meetings in Edison had previously paid in full for the Retreat House but their event got cancelled due to COVID and the Upper Room agreed to apply their funds for this retreat, so it is now a joint event and it brought down the contribution to \$5. Mike M. has agreed to do registration and Robin B. and Barbara have volunteered to make coffee, etc. Lusk asked if there is still a 35-person limit and Bobbi confirmed and stated there are currently 12 people signed up.

OLD BUSINESS

Robin reported she spoke to Kim G. from Cherry Hill and they have created an OA podcast – it's a Big Book one and they have been doing it for a year. The cost is \$108 per year with Pod Bean and someone would have to attach a credit card and someone will have to upload each episode, describe and post. It is not recommended to post them all at once so it would require a lot of service. There is also an anonymity issue as someone must be listed as the owner of the podcast. This is also true for social media and people are posting private groups that are attached to someone's account and that creates anonymity issues as

well. Pod Bean is an app and she provided the name - OA Big Book Cherry Hill. Lusk asked if it was the only one Robin looked at but she said it was the cheapest one but should we be happy to look into another one if provided. Danielle stated the LA group has a podcast but Robin could not find out who handles it and Danielle said to look up Region 2. Robin stated she is open to look at other options but doubts if it would require less work. Donna asked if this would be on an app or how it would work and Danielle explained.

Lucille reported she and Robin B. discussed possibly setting up social media accounts for CJJ on Facebook for older people and Instagram for younger people. There would be no cost involved but could not find a way to set it up as a business account or page so it would be connected to someone's personal account, which creates an issue with anonymity. Lucille was put in touch with someone from the South Jersey Intergroup (SJI) and also someone in Region 7 who handles their social media, and she is waiting for a response from them and will continue the report next month. Danielle added she has seen it where the Facebook account is set up with a totally made-up name and maybe something like this is possible.

BIRTHDAYS: August – Saturday AM Red Bank, Thursday PM Red Bank, Tuesday Metuchen, Thursday PM Freehold all celebrating anniversaries.

NEWS FROM GROUPS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Lusk mentioned he keeps hearing what a great meeting there is in Whiting but there is no representative attending the CJJ meeting and he will reach out to others who also

Donna stated that Flemington decided they are going to record their speakers and it will be sent to Robin B. to post on our website. She said that she previously set up a private OA related page through her personal Facebook account and people could request to join.

Danielle read Concept 8 and explained it and the Spiritual Principle of delegation.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sponsorship Day – August 21, 2022 (via Zoom)
Together We Can Recover Retreat – September 10th (in person)
September 16-19 - Region 7 Fall Assembly at Bon Secor (in-person)
Literature Event – East Brunswick, September 24th (in-person)
November 4-6 – Region 7 Convention in Ocean City, Maryland (in-person)

General Note - please remember to send all changes for group meetings (new, cancelled, changed times, locations, contacts, etc.) to BobbiLink@aol.com. Any flyers or other items to be posted to the CJJ website should go to Robin B. at reb2670@gmail.com

Danielle adjourned the meeting early at approximately 8:15 pm after the Serenity prayer.

The next meeting will be on Friday, September 9, 2022, at 7:00 pm via Zoom.