

SOAR 8 Virtual Business Assembly— October 21-22, 2022

Friday October 21, 2022:

The Soar 8 Business Assembly convened at 6:00 pm on Friday, October 21, 2022. The evening's agenda included OA readings, recognitions and introductions, introduction of new ("green dot") representatives, and adoption of agenda. A presentation and panel discussion included three speakers who shared their experience, strength, and hope and then assembly members shared and asked questions.

Saturday, October 22, 2022

Saturday, October 22, began at 9:00 am with OA readings and Roll Call and credentials were established with 37 voting representatives. The Standing Rules were accepted. The Parliamentarian gave a short lesson on parliamentary procedure.

Board Member Reports: Next was the Board Member reports. The reports were sent in advance of the assembly for members to read and then questions were asked to the 4 board members (Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer, and Secretary).

Chair – Michelle from central Arkansas intergroup asked the chair to highlight what she is most satisfied with as chair. She is most satisfied with the outreach to S. America she has done with Dora (our trustee).

Vice-chair: Tina S Manasota – are we looking for a virtual host only, or can it be either/or? Vice chair - explained that we don't have a host for Spring, and the intergroup gets to choose. If a group volunteered at this short notice it would need to be virtual. Q – Roz SW Florida—is Fall only going to be face to face, or is it going to be hybrid? Vice chair answered that it will probably be a hybrid. Q – Annie, rep from Central FL – 7 wanted to know if their intergroup decides they can do it, what is the process? Vice chair answered that they would need to get in touch with the board and they would either approve the bid or not (this was a guess). Send to vicechair@oaregion8.org that you want to, and that person would bring to the board. Q - Carol H from SW Alabama – what happens if no one volunteers? Vice Chair – the board will host it and there will still be assembly. Q – Ingrid ways/means chair. Wanted to thank Melissa for her support in interpretation and S. American representation.

Treasurer – Q – Melissa Vice Chair – What is your biggest hope for the biggest year. Treasurer answered: hopeful that we can use the funds Region 8 has to help the compulsive overeater in our area in their recovery. Q. Kathy M, Central Florida intergroup – our 37k prudent reserve – what is that due to. In Central Florida we have the same problem, how is the board handling it? And what are you going to do about it? Vice chair answered: that line item is the prudent reserve which is in alignment with our bylaws. It is 42% of our budget. Q. Nancy K, New Freedom. TY/Loved her YouTube. Is 40 -60% a recommendation or a standard? A. That is the recommendation for all service groups.

Secretary: Sand ra, New Freedom: what helps keep you organized? A. help and 8 understanding from others. The excel spreadsheet schedule with dates that are due. The packet is just pulling together .pdfs that others send and copying the last packet

Trustee Report: Q. – Michelle/Treasurer – what does liaison to board mean? A. That's a good question. We don't really understand. Trustee can ask whether to give service to the executive board of world service, or to a region. Bylaws say that the trustee will be a liaison to the world's board – not a voting member of the region. Region has autonomy. She was originally elected to be virtual region trustee but then it changed so she is just a trustee. Q. Roz SW Florida IG. What are the 3 service boards that she

mentioned in her report? IGs, National Service Boards, Language Service Boards and regions. A. In Region 8 we just have intergroups and a national service board. Q. Where are the unaffiliated groups? In the US or Other countries? A. Mostly in the US. This means they act as an intergroup but they don't register as an intergroup. Q. Carol SW Alabama Intergroup. - Should we have paid interpreters rather than members doing interpretation? A. – they are paid interpreters.

Final Report from Spring Convention: Gave Ellen the floor as chair of the last assembly. Gave the financials – 175 registrants. \$3,658 gross. expenses of \$484. Net: \$3374. dollars net split with region. Over \$400 donations were given which was part of the gross. Encouraged an IG to do a virtual region because it is so much easier than f2f. Q. Carol H, SW Alabama. Found report was extremely informative and it gave other intergroups good ideas and can be used as a resource. Q, Barbara T – asked about the net being split with Region. A. Yes. It was split with the region. Ellen will help with any IG who wants to host

Committee Meetings: The remainder of the morning was spent in committee meetings held in Zoom breakout rooms. Annie attended the Intergroup Outreach Committee (IGOR), and Alyson and Dee attended the Public Information and Professional Outreach Committee (PIPO).

Lunch Break with Speaker

After lunch, 34 voting reps, a lesson on parliamentary procedure.

Motions: Consent Agenda / Debate (If needed) o P&P Motions A, B, C, E o Bylaw Motions 1, 2, 3 b. Vote on Bylaws and P&P Motions

a. Nancy K, New Freedom asked for clarification on motion 1. Question about definition of virtual. Motion 1 withdrawn from consent agenda. Sandi C New 10 Freedom – doesn't agree with ordering in Motion E. Motion E withdrawn from Consent Agenda.

Consent Agenda is adopted 34 yes and 1 abstained

b. Vote on Motions: Motion D: Amendment proposed: To simply remove the word triennial instead of replacing it with quinquennial. Amendment passed. Motion to pass by acclamation (ask if any objections). No objections. Motion passed by acclamation.

c. Motion E: no pros, no cons. Motion to vote by acclamation. Accepted by acclamation.

d. Motion 1: no pros, Con: Karen T, COLA. Friendly amendment—to make it 'will be accessible by virtual means of communication' instead of email and/or telephone. amendment accepted. Con spoken to motion.

Another amendment made to include email, telephone and virtual means of communication. Amendment carried. Motion adopted as amended. (31 yes, 1 no, 2 abstained)

e. Motion 4. No pros/cons. 35 agree – motion adopted.

f. Motion 5. No additional pros and no cons. Friendly amendment to fix punctuation. Accepted with 11 no objections. Motion accepted by acclamation. Question about what a National Service board or language service board is. National is geographic – literature changes. Language is language-based literature and not geographic.

Budget Approved for next year

Elections for Vice Chair and Secretary:

Vice Chair is vacant

Secretary - elected JC

Committee Chair Selections:

Bylaws: Barb C, Tech Web Co-Chair Echo, Ways & Means, Mike S, PIPO needs a chair • IGOR needs a chair

Bids for Fall 2023 Assembly and Convention: Spring Assembly dates are set, and it will be March 17-19 and it will be virtual. Our chair cannot make it in April. ***** North Florida presented their Bid to hold the 2023 Fall assembly in Savannah, GA at Tybee Island at the 12 Tybee Hotel. It will be face 2 face and not virtual (hybrid). Cost will be \$155/night plus \$5 hotel fee, \$15 parking and 14% tax. Registration is expected to be \$40- 50\$. There is no food at the hotel. Looking at having lunch/dinner catered and other options. Refrigerators in room, no microwaves. So, meeting space rental will be \$2k – 2 rooms for 2.5 days. Must have 50 attendees. The recovery part will NOT be hybrid – it will only be f2f. Business assembly will be hybrid. Bid accepted. The Fall 2023 assembly and recovery convention will be in Tybee Island hosted by the North Florida intergroup.

Committee Reports:

a. Ways and Means: Ingrid. Ways & Means. Plan to make the journal into Spanish and Portuguese as soon as possible. Still have t-shirts from the canceled world service convention. Three new members. They will put info about the journal and t-shirts in the newsletter. Q/A – none.

b. Bylaws and Electronic Documents: Barb as new chair. Going through Bylaws and PnP to make the info more inclusive. QA – Karen/COLA – how many people on committee? A – 6 members Q. Can someone visit a committee to see what it's like? A. Barb will give her info about the Bylaws meetings

c. Intergroup Outreach (IGOR): Sara as outgoing IGOR chair. 10 people on the committee. Someone has been nominated for chair. They will give an answer soon. Financials – 50% more intergroup delegates funded to go to WSBC. We can help more. Initiatives: focus 13 on the 88 unaffiliated groups and the intergroups that aren't active.

d. Twelve Steps Within (TSW) / Unity With Diversity (UWD) : 3 new members and a lot of enthusiasm. Planning the first workshops for Feb 5, 2023, on sponsorship. Already have 3 speakers for that workshop. Planning for another for May 21 on abstinence. Basically concerned with relapse prevention and membership retention. 12 steps on the 12th in English/Portuguese/Spanish needs submissions. Need submissions for January (Nov and Dec are covered). People aren't using the sponsor and speaker lists but they are full of volunteers. QA: Dee/CFL – do they want TSW events to go out to TikTok for the whole world? A – The flyer can be distributed anywhere in the OA universe. Yes, it can go on tiktok. Q. Ingrid. When are your meetings? A. First Sunday of the month at 8:15pm ET.

e. Public Information / Professional Outreach (PI/PO): Melissa P PIPO chair. 1. Reached out to medical professionals – New Freedom Intergroup put together a packet with OA literature – and they heard about doctors who took that and were willing to post in their offices. Any groups interested in digital billboards

please reach out to PIPO. Q. Sarah – will digital billboards maybe happen in central/south America. A. Good idea!

f. Technology / Website: Shirley as chair. Encouraged each committee to send info to MJ to liven up their page on the website. Each committee has their own page on the website. Made upgrades to the website and there are still upgrades to be made. Plan to give workshops to help people use the web page. QA: none.

Green Dot Ceremony and Assembly Evaluation

Chair

Assembly Adjourns around 5:40 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Alyson T.