



Fall 2011 Assembly Minutes

SATURDAY OCTOBER 22, 2011

CALL TO ORDER Meeting called to order at 9:00 am by Chair Shari

SERENITY PRAYER, 3 MIN MED, 3RD STEP PRAYER

INTRODUCE GREEN DOTS / MENTORS

RETIRING REPS INTRODUCTION Carmen - Sacramento Valley, Lois - How OA NoCal, Carolina - Mexico, Katie - Mid peninsula

READING: 12 Concepts of service read.

ASSEMBLY RULES Read by Parliamentarian Tennie Bee Hall

ROLL CALL Secretary Carole read the roll call: 46 reps representing 27 out of 34 IGs, 6 board members, trustee, one alternate, 2 visitors. Total votes: 52, quorum is 30% = 11 IGs; quorum established.

ADOPTION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES Minutes of Spring 2011 Assembly (April 16) approved.

ASK-IT-BASKET CIRCULATED Chair explained the procedure for the Ask-It Basket.

9:30 AM ICEBREAKER

BOARD REPORTS

Chair: In packet, pg 14. R2 chairs were asked to remind anyone applying to be WSBC delegate that WSBC requires a 2-year current abstinence for delegates

ViceChair: In packet pg 14. Position is open and is lots of fun. Abstinence requirements are 2 years for VC as well as attending two assemblies. Explained WS survey which is available from WS. Survey looked at how people found OA, average age of members.

Secretary: pg 15. Spoke on the new publication of the OA tools pamphlet with the lovely purple cover.

Treasurer: In packet, pg 19. Vigorously promoted Lifeline subscription, solicited young people's stories help to get the word out to young people. Question on storage line on budget, we do not have a building for storage like WSO does.

Events Coordinator: In packet, pg 16. During icebreaker, one person asked about how to outreach to professional community. Get newly revised professional outreach manual with great ideas of who to contact, who can benefit, how to set up events, panels, etc.; it is a really good resource from WSO.

Publications Coordinator: In packet, pg 18. Need for R2 newsletter publisher. PI Manual from WSO talks of how to arrange PI events.

R2 Trustee: In packet pg 17-18. Member questions have led to some changes at WS:

1. reading AA literature at meetings. 2. new pamphlet "Common Solution," read from pg 16, from Costa Rica. Regarding reading literature at meetings; OA steps and traditions are adopted from AA, only way to change is through bylaws change motion at WSBC.

Only permission we have received is to change alcohol etc to food etc. in the Steps and Traditions only.

All other AA literature should not be changed when read at meetings. For the first 20 years, we only had AA literature until 1980. Now we have our own literature.

SPECIAL REPORTS

Bette - Report from WSBC delegate with R2 delegate scholarship funding.

Linda B - LA Birthday Party Jan 20-22, Four Points Sheridan LAX hotel. Applications are in the back of the room.

10:15 AM BREAK

PRESENTATION - INTRODUCTION TO R2 COMMITTEE WORK Committees preassigned during registration.

12-Step Within: Reaching those within the fellowship who still suffer

Assembly Planning: plan for the speakers and entertainment for assemblies.

Bylaws: for people interested in changing things, have several motions for this assembly, working on new ones.

Young People: looking at ways to reach out to young people.

Intergroup Outreach: 12-step work with IGs, encouraging IGs to attend Assemblies.

Public Information: PI committee has made sure all R2 IGs have the OA PI manual.

Diversity: trying to reach out to all people no matter gender, race, ethnicity etc to get the word out that OA works.

REGION / INTERGROUP CONCERNS

Q. Group does not enough lit for bulimics/anorexics; they can't find helpful literature at the meetings.

A. WSO has packets for bulimics and anorexics at oa.org. Can make literature proposal to WSO if group has ideas for more literature.

Q. IG is small with groups in Chico and Redding, having hard time getting in touch with some localities. They don't have email; have to mail reports to them.

A. Ask them to have a designated "downloader" to bring emailed reports to their meetings.

Q. Is there an abstinence requirement set by R2 for reps?

A. No, R2 rep requirements are set for R2 reps by each IG.

Q. What specifically does diversity mean?

A. There are four sections in "Common Solutions" pamphlet, covers people from different ways of life, orientations; we are all different but we have a common problem with a common solution.

Q. Do IG bylaws refer to R2 rep term of service?

A. Recommended two-year terms. We should also have rotation of service, which is healthy for OA as a whole.

Q. What is the board's vision for helping with the fact that there is so little abstinence?

A. WS has addressed this in the OA 5 - year plan, which covers several topics. Region Chairs were encouraged to ask IGs to have workshops on abstinence. IG did a day in OA on abstinence with speakers from regular OA, 90-day, and OAHOW, focus was different for each person. Drew a lot of old-timer OAs as well as new people. Many other suggestions were given.

ASK-IT-BASKET

Q. What should I do when a meeting allows cross talk?

A. Need a service and traditions workshop. We need to feel safe at meetings.

Q. What is the difference between the R2 assembly packet and the newsletter?

A. The packet is the publication that prepares reps for the business of the assembly. Michael creates the packet. He is editor for the newsletter but needs someone to help set it up for publishing.

Q. Do conference speakers and entertainers have speaking guidelines? I've heard speakers/entertainers speak on outside issues.

A. We do have guidelines, we share those with speakers but cannot control what they say when speaking. It is up to us to speak up when we hear someone talking about outside issues.

Q. Public service - free vs paying for these. A. It is not a break of tradition to pay for public service announcements. It would violate traditions to brag that you will lose weight or show pictures.

Q. What does R2 Trustee do?

A. Trustee is connection between WS and R2. Board of trustees oversees running the WSO. Regional trustee is responsible for answering regional questions. Forwards inmate requests for someone to write to them. All trustees are on committees, Meg on WS Convention 2013 (in Cleveland), Diversity, and Public Awareness Committee which looks at outreach proposals, whether they violate traditions or not. Trustees

meet 4 times/year, R2 Trustee also goes to all six R2 board meetings/year, Mexican congress 1/year. Helps with ST&C workshops. Term is three years, can be elected for two terms.

Q. Can we get phone meetings directions?

A. Go to oa.org, meetings, over 60 registered phone meetings are listed.

Q. I attended an OA phone meeting last month, the meeting secretary was editorializing, had no format, there was a newcomer there who was given misinformation about how OA works. I am concerned that such meetings are listed on the OA website.

A. Meetings are autonomous (Tradition 4); however, it is up to each of us to support all the traditions when they are violated. Could have asked about a group conscience meeting, gotten the secretary's number and called afterwards, or shared about concerns during time for sharing if possible.

Q. What is fat serenity? Some people will never be thin; do we have that phobia?

A. It does not say "thin" in the definition of Abstinence.

Q. Will a meeting's insurance cover a volunteer's injury?

A. The insurance purchased by the meetings was only to protect the church or hall or whatever is rented for the meeting place, and it is usually the sites that request that we carry insurance so they do not get sued. It will not cover a member's injury; if so, those who don't have the capacity to be honest in all areas of their life would take advantage of this and sue to get money from the insurance company. We are talking about a whole different insurance, and that type of insurance will cost a lot of money.

NEW BUSINESS

Assembly ratified paying R2 delegate expense approved by R2 Board

Motion #1: Move to amend R2 Bylaws Article VI, Item F, as follows:

F. It shall be the responsibility of each Intergroup and Unaffiliated Group contact to provide the R2 Publications Coordinator with the name, mailing address, phone number and email address (when available) of their RRs at least sixty (60) days prior to an assembly in order to receive an Assembly information Packet *the pre-registration notice, or other notices deemed necessary by the R2 Board or an R2 Assembly.*

Submitted by: The R2 Bylaws Committee

Intent: To include all notices that may require contact information about RRs.

Rationale: In the past, the assembly information packet was the only document that was sent directly to the region representatives (RRs). With the advent of the internet and email, other important information is sent to RRs. This motion provides that all such notices require adequate contact information, provided in a timely manner.

Motion #1 approved.

Motion #2: Move to amend the 1st sentence and Item F of Bylaws Article IX, as follows:

Nomination & Election of ~~Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, Publications Coordinator and Events Coordinator~~ of the R2 Board:

F. Vacancies occurring on the R2 Board may be filled by a majority vote of the remaining R2 Board members. The R2 Board may solicit individuals known to them; may solicit volunteers from the fellowship via mail and/or electronic transmission; or may post the vacancy on the R2 website. Appointees shall serve until the position is filled by an election. Elections to fill an unexpired R2 Board position shall occur only at the annual assembly at which elections are normally held.

Submitted by: R2 Bylaws Committee and the R2 Board

Intent: (a) To eliminate reference to specific board positions, which is no longer necessary, and (b) to clarify the method of filling R2 Board vacancies.

Rationale:

(a) It is no longer necessary to specify which board members are elected, inasmuch as the R2 Trustee is no longer a "non-voting board member," but is a "non-voting liaison" to the Region 2 Board from the World Service Board of Trustees, as adopted at the April 2011 assembly. Also, to eliminate the need to amend the bylaws should board positions be added or deleted from time-to-time.

(b) To put current practice in written form and to clarify when appointees shall be replaced.

Motion #2 approved.

Motion #3: Move to amend the 1st sentence and items B and D of R2 Bylaws Article X, as follows:

~~The Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, Publications Coordinator, and Events Coordinator of the R2 Board~~ members shall be subject to recall for his/her current office at any regularly scheduled R2 Assembly.

- A. Reason(s) for recall shall be any breach of duty imposed on the R2 Board member by the Bylaws and the Corporation Code of California, or failure to continue to meet the qualification requirements for R2 Board members set forth in these Bylaws, Article IX Section G.
- B. Recall petitions may be proposed at any time by one or more ~~an~~ Intergroup(s) or a majority vote of the R2 Board. Petitions proposed by Intergroups shall include complete information about the proposing entity, name and contact information of the presiding officer at the meeting at which the petition was proposed, and the number of voting members at that meeting.
- C. Recall petitions shall include the R2 Board member's name, office to be vacated, and a substantive statement of the breach of duty which supports the petition.
- D. Recall petitions shall be delivered by mail or electronic transmission to the Region 2 Secretary, who ~~At the time of receiving a recall petition, the R2 Secretary~~ shall immediately forward the petition to all R2 Board members. Should the R2 Secretary be the subject of the petition, it shall be delivered to the R2 Chair who shall forward it to all R2 Board members.

Submitted by: R2 Bylaws Committee and R2 Board

Intent: (a) To eliminate reference to specific board positions, which is no longer necessary, and (b) to update the methods of notification and establish requirements for the submission of petitions to recall R2 Board members.

Rationale:

(a) It is no longer necessary to specify which board members are elected, inasmuch as the R2 Trustee is no longer a "non-voting board member," but is a "non-voting liaison" to the Region 2 Board from the World Service Board of Trustees, as adopted at the April 2011 assembly. Also, to eliminate the need to amend the bylaws should board positions be added or deleted from time-to-time.

(b) The process for recall of board members needs to be updated to allow electronic transmission of notices; to establish requirements for information about the presenting intergroup(s); and include a procedure on how to handle the proposed recall petition should the R2 Secretary be the subject of the petition.

Motion #3 approved.

11:45 AM CONVENTION 2012 Presentation

11:55 AM LUNCH WITH GUEST SPEAKER from Mexico

REGION / INTERGROUP CONCERNS

Q. Regarding the use of social media such as Facebook and Twitter - R2 convention was put on FB last summer. WS has policy on social media, how do we reconcile anonymity and FB/Twitter.

A. There are no guarantees of anonymity on FB/Twitter unless a private group. Best to not use it for OA connections.

Q. Someone said recently that meeting anonymity does not apply to IG anonymity, what does this mean?

A. You need to use last names to do some of the IG business, for bank statements, etc.

Q Does it take a 2/3 majority to submit motions to R2? To WSO?

A. That would be up to the IG.

Q People are announcing bypass surgery is the answer to our problem. Is this a violation of traditions?

A. Yes, it is and needs to be addressed by group secretary.

2:00 PM COMMITTEE MEETINGS

3:15 PM BREAK

NEW BUSINESS

Motion #4: Move to amend Policy & Procedure Manual, Section VIII - Operating Policies and Procedures, item B - Financial, by adding:

17. Prudent reserve policy:

- a) It shall be the policy of Region 2 to maintain a prudent reserve to cover a minimum of six (6) months, and a maximum of one (1) year's operating expenses, plus outstanding liabilities and one-time capital expenditures.
- b) The monthly operating expense amount shall be based on the average for the previous three (3) years.

Submitted by: R2 Bylaws Committee and the R2 Board

INTENT: To establish a written policy for the region's prudent reserve and the method of calculating it.

RATIONALE: Questions frequently arise regarding the amount and method of determining the region's prudent reserve policy. Region 2 has operated using standard accounting practice which suggests a reserve of six (6) months to one (1) year's operating expenses.

By establishing a written policy, the R2 Board will have a pre-determined method of calculating the reserve that has been approved by an assembly.

Motion #4 approved.

MOTION #5: Move to amend Policy & Procedures Manual, Section VIII, item E, as follows:

WSBC DELEGATE ASSISTANCE FUND

1. R2 Board shall coordinate participation, including:
 - i. Distribute application forms
 - ii. Make final determination for funding.
2. WSBC Funds shall be available to assist up to three (3) Intergroups per year with financial hardships. Preference is given to those intergroups that have participated in the last two (2) R2 assemblies and have not sent a delegate to WSBC the prior year.
3. Funding shall be as follows: A maximum of \$1,000 per intergroup to be used for food, travel, registration, hotel, etc.
4. Participants are expected to fulfill the following requirements:
 - i. Attend all business meetings
 - ii. Arrive at WSBC Monday or Tuesday
 - iii. Serve on a committee
 - iv. Attend Workshops
 - v. Attend all voting on Thursday, Friday and Saturday
 - vi. Share a room if possible.
 - vii. Submit a written report to R2 Board upon return.

5. Check for assistance will be made out to the Intergroup after the end of the Conference and will be mailed within 30 days, following receipt of: ~~given to participant by the R2 Chair at the final WSBC meeting.~~
 - i. A detailed R2 reimbursement form, signed by the intergroup's chair, with original detailed receipts attached.
 - ii. Reimbursement may not exceed the amount approved by the R2 Board, nor shall it exceed actual expenses after they have been reduced by World Service funding assistance.
6. Extenuating circumstances: Should extenuating circumstances occur, such as illness or death in the family, which prevent the delegate's fulfillment of his/her duties, the R2Board may vote, on a case to case basis, to allow payment of assistance funds.

Submitted by: R2 Bylaws Committee and R2 Board

INTENT: To institute prudent documentation and payment procedures, plus provide for payments due to extenuating circumstances.

RATIONALE: Substantiation requirements are an integral part of Region 2's reimbursement policies. No substantiation is required in the current policy. Modifying the policy to include submission of receipts and limiting payments to actual costs after reduction of World Service funding assistance ensures prudent use of the region's assets.

The current policy does not allow funding assistance to a delegate who is unable to fulfill the stipulated performance requirements due to circumstances beyond their control. Failure to provide such assistance could create financial hardship for the intergroup and/or the individual.

Motion #5 approved.

MOTION #6: Move to amend Bylaws Article VI -Membership of the R2 Assembly to correspond with the full definition of an OA group as stated in the O.A., Inc. Bylaws Subpart B, Article V.:

ARTICLE VI - Membership of the R2 Assembly

Members of the R2 Assembly shall consist of the R2 Board, RR's from each R2 Intergroup desiring to participate, and a representative of any other OA group unaffiliated with an Intergroup (hereinafter referred to as any Unaffiliated Group) within R2 (California, Hawaii, Mexico and Northern Nevada):

Intergroups and Unaffiliated Groups must be duly registered with the World Service Office of Overeaters Anonymous (hereinafter referred to as WSO), and agree that:

a) The following points shall define an Overeaters Anonymous group:

1. As a group, they meet to practice the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions of Overeaters Anonymous- guided by the Twelve Concepts of OA Service.
2. All who have the desire to stop eating compulsively are welcome in the group.
3. No member is required to practice any actions in order to remain a member or to have a voice (share at a meeting.)
4. As a group they have no affiliation other than Overeaters Anonymous.
5. It has affiliated as an Overeaters Anonymous group by registering with the World Service Office.

b) Virtual groups (groups which replicate face-to-face meetings through electronic media) may be an Overeaters Anonymous group if they:

1. otherwise meet the definition of Overeaters Anonymous groups;
2. are fully interactive, and;
3. meet in real time.

(Balance of Article VI remains unchanged)

Motion submitted by the R2 Board, for consideration at the Oct. 2011 Assembly.

Rationale: The bylaws of Regions, Intergroups and other service bodies may not be in conflict with the World Service Bylaws Subpart B. In 2011, the definition of a group was amended to include changes noted above, necessitating a bylaws revision.

Motion #6 approved

Motion #7: Move that, according to policy manual Section VIII- B- #12, the following budget overrides be approved:

<u>Item:</u>	<u>Description:</u>	<u>Amount:</u>
601-00	Board to Assembly Expense	\$ 850.00
605-00	Assembly Packets	\$ 200.00
635-00	Mexico Rep to Assembly	\$1,000.00
655-00	R2 Chair to Mexico	\$ 128.00
660-00	R2 Chair to RCC meetings	\$1,800.00
700-00	General Board Meetings	\$ 900.00
735-00	Newsletter Expense	\$ 400.00
<u>Total Budget Over-rides Required</u>		<u>\$5,368.00</u>

End of motion.

Submitted by the Region 2 Board

Explanation:

Items 601-00, 655-00, and 700-00 are needed due to increased travel costs.

Item 660-00 for R2 Chair to RCC meetings was under-budgeted. The November meeting will be held in Bogota, Columbia, but was budgeted for a U.S. site.

Item 605-00 for Assembly packets is due to the increased size of the packets, which created additional printing and mailing expense.

Item 635-00 is needed to cover cost to fund two (2) RRs from Mexico to the assembly, which was approved by the Board.

Item 735-00 for Newsletters is needed to cover the additional cost for 12 page newsletters, approved by the Board.

Motion #7 approved.

Motion #8: Move that, according to policy manual Section VIII, B, #13, funding of the following budget line items be determined for 2011:

<u>Item:</u>	<u>Description:</u>	<u>Amount:</u>
715-00	Donation to Delegate Support Fund	\$ 250.00
716-00	Donation to World Service Office (increase to \$500)	\$ 250.00
718-00	Donation to Reg.Chairs Comm.(RCC)Travel Supp.	\$ 500.00
719-00	Donation to Support Translation of Lit.	\$ 250.00
<u>Total Budget Increase</u>		<u>\$1,250.00</u>

End of motion.

Submitted by the Region 2 Board

Rationale:

Per the referenced policy, the Board makes a recommendation on funding of these budget items, based on the region's prudent reserve. Again, the prudent reserves allow support of these important funds. Line item 716-00 currently reflects \$250.00 (minimum required), which would be increased to \$500.00 if this motion is adopted.

Motion #8 approved.

Motion #9: Move to adopt the 2012 Budget for Region 2.

End of motion.

Submitted by the Region 2 Board

Motion #9 approved.

4:00 PM Panel on Diversity with 3 speakers

5:30 PM ADJOURNED

SUNDAY OCTOBER 23 2011

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting called to order at 9:00 am by Chair Shari

SERENITY PRAYER, 3 MIN MED, 3RD STEP PRAYER

READING: 12 Concepts of service read.

ASSEMBLY RULES Read by Parliamentarian Tennie Bee Hall

ROLL CALL Secretary Carole read the roll call: 43 reps representing 26 out of 34 IGs, 6 board members, trustee, no alternates, one visitor. Total votes: 49; quorum is 30% = 11 IGs; quorum established.

ASK-IT BASKET CIRCULATED

COMMITTEE MEETINGS (CONTINUED)

ELECTIONS:

Vice Chair (2-year term) One applicant - Nancy J. qualified for three minutes, elected.

Secretary (2-year term) One applicant - Linda M. qualified for three minutes; elected.

Events Coordinator (2-year term) One applicant - Cher B. qualified for three minutes; elected.

10:30 AM BREAK

NEW BUSINESS (CONTINUED)

Motion #10: To increase the Young People's committee budget from \$100 to \$500 as per line item 692-00.

Purpose of motion: To purchase copies of the Lifelines dedicated to young people in OA to be distributed to IGs and R2 committee members. Also additional postage and other public information materials aimed at young people.

Motion #10 approved.

Motion #11: Increase Diversity Committee budget by \$50.00 to equal \$100.00

Purpose: Printing and mailing flyers, post cards and cover letters to spread the message

Motion #11 approved.

Motion #12: (a) That we give R2 intergroups the option to receive R2 assembly packets and newsletters electronically.

(b) That the packet be made available on the website at least 30 days before the assembly.

Purpose of motion:

(a) To reduce printing costs

(b) Ensure timely delivery of the packets.

Intergroups who want to continue to receive paper copies to be allowed to do so.

Motion #12 referred to Bylaws committee

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Young People: creating a group on Yahoo groups for yp who want to share their stories, email R2 treasurer if you want to join. With increased budget, sending Lifeline to all IGs and R2 board members. WS podcast w/ 3 speakers talking of how yp came in. Would like to get a list of speakers from IG to send to Yahoo spot.

Diversity: bursting with ideas, had to vote on two, now have subcommittees; 1st coming up with workshop formats for IGs, 2nd developing a cover letter to go with post card to be sent out to a specific group of people that may have overeating issues in the mental health area.

12 step within: set up a couple things they want to get done by next assembly: Speaker lists from R2 and WS - edit to relapse recovery people and forward to IGs. Create best practice list for IGs for people in recovery and who have left OA. Goal is to figure out best way to distribute the above.

Outreach: since last assembly made phone calls and got results: 24 IGs came last assembly, 27 this assembly. Assigned 7 different IGs to members that have come recently to contact IGs. Adopt IG to provide moral support to attend assembly, contact unaffiliated groups.

Public Information: have new cochairs. Former cochairs accomplished all goals from previous assembly. 1. Increase the communications between R2 and IG PI committees, 2. Each member of committee has IGs to contact to update contact info; give them info on health fairs, IDEA day. 3. Stay in contact with other committee members.

Bylaws: review bylaws for validity applicability, working on motion to remove Assembly Planning committee at board's request, clean up IG assistance funding language.

INTERGROUP CONCERNS

ASK-IT-BASKET

Q. Do we get a list with information of all those who attended this assembly? Today or later?

A. All reps are emailed a list of the attendees.

Q. Where can we locate a current available R2 speaker list?

A. Go to oar2.org, click on Speakers List (lower left side). You will be directed to contact the R2 ViceChair for a copy of this list.

CLOSING CEREMONY

12 noon ADJOURNED

Submitted by Carole C., R2 Secretary