

**Minutes of the
Overeaters Anonymous Region III Spring Assembly
Webster (Houston), TX
March 21, 2015**

Assembly came to order at 8:19 a.m. by the Chair, Roni B., and opened with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer.

The Twelve Steps were read by Sally H., SEAZ.

The Twelve Traditions were read by Theresia O., HOAHOW.

The Twelve Concepts were read by Wallace M., NCOI.

The *For Today* selection was read by Dexter W., LVOA.

The *Voices of Recovery* selection was read by Kathy M., CNMI.

The Chair introduced the Steering Committee: Vice Chair, Andrea M.; Treasurer, Barbara V.; Recording Secretary, Kay S.; Communications Secretary, Barb R. The Chair also introduced Trustee, Vicki W., and Parliamentarian, Judy K.

Barb R presented a guided meditation.

Chair appointed Neva S to write informal minutes for the Assembly.

Christina S was appointed to be the timekeeper for the Assembly.

The Assembly roll was called and the Credentials Report was read. 19 representatives and 5 Steering Committee members were present, for a total of 24 votes. It was moved and seconded that the Credentials Report be accepted. The Credentials Report was accepted.

The minutes from the Fall 2014 Assembly were approved as presented.

The Recording Secretary moved to adopt the proposed Assembly Standing Rules, seconded. The Proposed Standing Rules were adopted as presented.

The proposed Agenda for the Assembly was adopted as presented, with adjustments to be made as necessary.

The Parliamentarian gave a five-minute presentation about the purpose of parliamentary procedure – that all voices may be heard. The Trustee also provided information about how a proposal or motion might be deemed out of order, to address concerns about agenda proposals for this year's WSBC.

The Representatives introduced themselves by coming to the front of the Assembly, each giving their name, stating the service body they represent, and voicing their intention for the day.

Steering Committee Reports:

Chair: In addition to her written report, Roni B. stated that because she has an unavoidable conflict, she has appointed Andrea M. to represent her at the Region Chairs meeting being held in Australia.

Vice Chair: In addition to her written report, Andrea M. reminded the Assembly that funding is available to bring speakers to intergroups for retreats. There is also a separate fund to bring a representative from Region 3 to present a workshop on Abstinence or on Service, Traditions, and Concepts. She also reported on the professional conferences where we provided exhibits. This is her last Assembly to serve as part of the Steering Committee, and she expressed gratitude for the opportunity to have been of service.

Treasurer: In addition to her written report, Barbara V. reported that 7th Tradition contributions from groups remain consistent and are increasing. She also encouraged intergroups and groups to verify that their numbers are reported correctly and reminded us that she needs a group registration number to accompany each contribution. She also began circulation of the 7th Tradition contribution envelope for the Assembly.

Recording Secretary: In addition to her written report, Kay S. gave details regarding the blue folder being passed for updated contact information. She also encouraged groups to ensure that their contact information is correct with WSO for the website.

Communications Secretary: In addition to her written report, Barb R. stated that recordings of speakers from both the Assembly and the Cruise will be posted on the R3 website. In response to inquiry about website traffic, she provided current statistics. She also encouraged content contributions from the representatives, since fresh content and articles help to increase website traffic.

Trustee: In addition to her written report, Vicki W. discussed the incident that happened earlier this year when WSO's website "find a meeting" feature crashed; she stated this happened because limited funding has prevented updates and routine maintenance to our website functions. She also stated that one-third of local meetings have incorrect contact information in the WSO database, and she encouraged us to advise local meetings to check and update as needed by sending an email either to her or to WSO. She promoted the upcoming 2016 World Service Convention in Boston. Also, upcoming literature: the *Lifeline Sampler* is being updated and retitled *A Taste of Lifeline*, a document on working the 12 Steps on a specific problem is in progress, and a pocket reference card with the new Preamble is now available for order. She also advised that she has funding separate from the Region's budget to bring workshops to intergroups and service bodies. Vicki explained and began circulating the envelope for the *Lifeline* drawing.

Vicki has already been affirmed as a candidate for election at WSBC to another term as Region 3 Trustee. She gave the Assembly time to address any additional questions.

A ten-minute break was called at 9:35 a.m.

Elections:

Brenda Q stood for election to fill the unexpired portion of the vacated Vice Chair term as called for in Article VII, Section H of the Bylaws. She was given five minutes to address the Assembly and then the Assembly was given five minutes to present questions.

The Chair reminded us that at the Fall Assembly, we will elect a Treasurer, Communications Secretary, and Vice Chair. Ballots were cast and submitted to the Tellers Committee for counting.

While waiting for the Tellers Report, the Chair requested feedback from the Assembly for use in designing a new proposed OA App for use with smart phones, which is being funded by the donations made in founder Rozann S.'s memory. WSO is in the process of designing an app and is seeking feedback from membership about what they would use in an app. The Chair provided time for the Assembly to write and submit their suggestions to be shared with the designers.

Tellers Report: Total eligible voters: 24. Votes cast: 23. Necessary for election: 12. No illegal votes. 22 votes received for the candidate, and she was elected as Vice Chair. Kathy M. moved to destroy the ballots; seconded. Motion carried.

Proposed Bylaw and Policy Manual Amendments:

A Consent Agenda was presented, consisting of Policy Motions 1 and 2 and Bylaw Motions A, B, and D. The Assembly was given 10 minutes to review the proposed Consent Agenda. Consent Agenda was adopted as presented.

Policy Manual amendment motion 3 was presented and seconded. Motion carried.

Policy Manual amendment motion 4 was presented and seconded. Motion carried.

Policy Manual amendment motion 5 was presented and seconded. Motion carried.

Bylaw Amendment motion C was presented and seconded. Motion carried.

Committees:

The Chair announced that a conference call progress check-in is scheduled for Monday June 22, 2015, 8:00 p.m. Central time (7:00 p.m. Mountain, 6:00 p.m. Pacific). All Steering Committee and Committee Chairs are expected to attend the conference call. Assembly broke into committee groups to work independently and for the lunch break. The committee chairs returned at 1:45 p.m. and the Assembly reconvened at 2:00 p.m. to hear the committees' reports.

Third Step Within (TSW): Report presented by Kathy M. Working on an updated TSW Speakers list. Will verify contact information and eligibility of current people on the list and invite reps to carry application forms back to their groups to add more speakers to the list. Asked the Communications Secretary to post application form on the website. Forms should be returned to Joan B (joan_batson@yahoo.com) by May 31st.

Public Information/Professional Outreach (PIPO): Report presented by Theresia O and Brenda Q. Accomplishments – 2 trade shows in Vegas; completed a “high school flyer” project test run and determined that maybe this is a too-young target audience, will revisit idea at next assembly for consideration at college level. Also seeking approval to update the flyer with QVC codes. Goals – obtain more literature for tradeshow events and network at Sept 2015 Las Vegas Professional Tradeshow. Committee is also working on contacting the doctor with “My 600 lb Life” show.

Communications/Technology (Comm/Tech): Report presented by Christie. Goals – make the website links more user friendly and improve accuracy of information, provide help and articles to the intergroups that are less tech savvy, and transfer mailout lists from Horizon to Constant Contact.

Bylaws (Bylaws): Report presented by Sally H. The committee is 75% complete with review of Policy Manual and Bylaws, with plans to complete remainder at next Assembly. Interacting with WMF for revisions that affect their practices.

Ways, Means, & Finance (WMF): Report presented by Marcia F. Completed journal fundraiser, and they are now available for sale. \$7 each or 4/\$25, can be taken back to intergroup and resold there for whatever price you choose. Also available for purchase between events by contacting Treasurer by email. Cruise T-shirts are also available for sale for \$15 each. Prepared suggestions for Bylaws Committee and will follow up directly with them by April 1st. Plans to revise the WMF handbook via conference calls prior to Fall Assembly.

Unity with Diversity (UWD): Report presented by Joy C. Articles previously submitted to Lifeline were published in February. UWD workshop idea from prior years was passed to Board of Trustees for consideration; plan to resubmit. Plan to ask WSO if Lifeline is published, translated, or excerpted in other languages; also whether website is made available in other languages. Inquiry whether R3 website can provide Spanish-language information. Requested that Recording Secretary return to sending out a monthly question.

Lifeline Drawing: Enough was collected for 5 e-subscriptions. Names were drawn – Theresia O., Helen D., Bobbi S., Kay S., and Wallace M. Winners will provide name, address, email, and phone for the subscriptions to Treasurer.

Seventh Tradition of \$103 was collected.

Friday Workshop: Barb R. reported that a transcription and recording of the workshop will be reviewed and edited and then made available to the representatives and on the website. Workshop was a problem-solving session, with questions and answers provided by intergroups and representatives. Reminder that part of our job as representatives is to carry the message about what is accomplished at Assembly and share the excitement with local groups and intergroups.

There was no unfinished business to address.

New business:

Dexter W. made an inquiry about how to get better supplies of literature for tradeshow events so that local intergroup (usually Las Vegas) does not have to scramble. Vice Chair has already forwarded this observation to WSO and they have already changed the guideline about how much is to be provided. Las Vegas is willing to buy and store a backup supply of "To the Professional" and "Courier" brochures; Vice Chair suggested coordinating purchase through Trustee's access to a literature discount. Treasurer stated that we still have funding available in the Professional Exhibit and PIPO funds; suggested that the Region purchase and have it shipped to LVI to be stored. No motion was needed because it is funding already allocated.

Spring Assembly for 2016 is still open. Big Country made a bid to host in Lubbock, TX; accepted.

Announcements:

1. Conference call Monday, June 22, 2015, 8 p.m. Central / 7 p.m. Mountain / 6 p.m. Arizona. Recording Secretary will send out reminder and instructions in advance.
2. Elections at next Assembly for Treasurer, Communications Secretary, and Vice Chair.
3. Next Assembly in Albuquerque, NM, September 25-27, 2015, entitled Recovery: Land of Enchantment. Registration flyers have been distributed to reps and are available on website.
4. Retreat hosted by ASDI, at Embry Riddle in Prescott, AZ, June 26-28. Info and brochure at www.oaphoenix.org. \$165 if registered before June 5th; otherwise \$175. Without bed and meals, \$80.
5. Galveston convention, October 2-4: Stepping Into Recovery. Information is on the website.

There was no further business.

The OA Region III Spring 2015 Assembly was adjourned at 4:00 p.m. with a moment of silence, followed by *I Put My Hand in Yours*.

Respectfully submitted,

Kay S.

Region 3 Recording Secretary