



## Meeting Minutes

January 10, 2009

**Present:** Miller – Chairperson  
Ashley – Vice Chair  
Ellen – Treasurer  
Pamela – Secretary  
Mary – Rainbow Newsletter/Webmaster  
Christy – Special Events  
Jacob – Public Information  
Jody – Meeting Liaison  
Robin – Thursday PM Rep  
Tawna – Friday AM Meeting Rep  
Curtis – Monday AM Meeting Rep  
Roselyn – Acting Monday PM Meeting Rep  
Kathy – Tuesday PM Meeting Rep  
Lillian

**Absent:** 12<sup>th</sup> Step Within Needs Rep  
World Service Needs Rep  
Alice – Sunday PM Meeting Rep  
IG Rep – Saturday AM Meeting Rep

### **Meeting opened at 9:15 am with the Serenity Prayer**

Read 12 Traditions

Read 12 Concepts

Pamela read the minutes for the December 13<sup>th</sup> meeting. Revisions were offered and accepted.

### **Board Reports:**

**Chair** – Miller announced that she was pleased to be the new Chair of Marin County OA Intergroup.

**Vice Chair** – Ashley had no report except to say that she was happy to be here.

**Treasurer** – Ellen gave the December financial report. Opening balance as of December 1, 2008 was \$2,964.08. Income was \$115.20. Phone expenses were \$24.40 leaving a closing balance on December 31, 2008 of \$2,838.88.



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Ellen presented mail:

1. Literature mailing forms for each meeting, which were distributed to all the meeting reps.
2. HOW OA Sponsorship workshop in Oakland.
3. San Diego Newsletter and meeting list
4. Region 2 Assembly pre-registration due February 21<sup>st</sup>. This is the business meeting for Region 2.
5. Letter about the World Service Convention taking place August 26-29, 2010 at the Hilton LAX; which is having a labor union dispute; suggesting that the Assembly “ignore Local 11, and not let them picket at meetings.
6. Another letter from Gary F in LA to all Intergroups – saying that being involved in this labor dispute violates OA Traditions. Ellen added that it also violates Concept 4 of OA’s 12 Concepts. Gary F. suggested in his letter that OA move the Convention to another hotel because it would be divisive to the Fellowship.

Discussion about items 5 and 6 ensued. Tawna told the group she’d had a similar experience at that same hotel, where this dispute has gone on for two years now that was extremely unpleasant and disruptive. She said that OA should be able to pull the event since it’s taking place in 2010. Christy suggested sending a letter that explains how it would adversely affect the conference. Mary said that pulling the event would show support of the union; which means that whatever is decided, OA is still involved in the controversy. Jody suggested that the group reflect on the passage in the AA Big Book about “pausing when agitated,<sup>1</sup> suggesting that we defer further discussion about this topic. Miller said she would add it to next month’s agenda under Old Business.

**Secretary** – Pam had no report. She asked that, since there are so many changes in the individual’s roles in Intergroup, people supply their email, phone, position, and/or group represented and sent a sheet around for this purpose.

**Day in OA** – Christy presented the group with copies of the flier for the Spring into Abstinence event. She invited the group reps to take 10 copies each. The event, focusing on the first three steps, will take place March 7<sup>th</sup> at the Marin Lutheran Church in Corte Madera from 1 – 4 PM, with a suggested donation of \$5. Christy said she needed help to find speakers with long-term abstinence. Kathy recommended that Christy speak with Patricia, who was in charge of getting speakers for the Saturday meeting, attends a lot of meetings, and has many speaker contacts. Regarding whether the next Day in OA is held indoors or outdoors, Christy suggested that she do some research about how protected the location is that she was suggesting at Samuel P. Taylor park.

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<sup>1</sup> “As we go through the day we pause, when agitated or doubtful, and ask for the right thought or action. We constantly remind ourselves we are no longer running the show, humbly saying to ourselves many times each day “Thy will be done.”  
(Passage about 11<sup>th</sup> Step on p. 87-88, AA Big Book)



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Discussion ensued.

Jacob feels that the outdoor location adds something to the mix of these events and would be a nice change. Miller said it would open the door to expose peoples' anonymity and suggested further research into how private it would be. Christy also brought up necessary permitting. Kathy said that the venue was a great possibility and is wonderful on the surface. Jody (who originally expressed concern about losing anonymity) said that people might not go because of its outdoor location, but she'll probably go since she loves the outdoors. Ellen was concerned that the venue might already be booked, because they are often reserved six months in advance. Kathy thanked Christy for the originality of ideas that she was giving her Special Events position. Pam suggested that since Intergroup hadn't actually thanked Christy for the first event she gave that we should do so; the group then applauded her enthusiastically and unanimously approved her research into the outdoor venue for the June event. Christy was asked if she would mail the March flier to other Intergroups and to Mary for the new Web site.

**Region 2** – This position began at the meeting as “still open,” and discussion ensued as to the Region 2 Rep requirements. Ellen supplied the formal requirements: Working the 12 steps for one year; familiarity with the 12 Traditions; familiarity with the 12 Concepts, 6 months current abstinence; attendance at an active group for 1 year or being an Intergroup Rep and that the qualifications and requirements that should be met as outlined and defined in Region 2 Bylaws. Robin expressed interest but wasn't sure whether she met the qualifications. Kathy was suggested as a candidate, but wasn't open to the idea because of the time commitment. Robin suggested that she will have fulfilled all the requirements by the time of the Assembly in March. The group agreed that Kim would probably “bridge” for it for Robin, who was unanimously approved as the new Region 2 Rep.

Ashley suggested that it be added to New Business a serious discussion about filling positions vis-à-vis “principles before personalities” when it meant filling a position with a known individual while waiving the principle of requirements. A similar situation had occurred in a meeting that Ashley attended and she was wondering how it should be handled.

**Rainbow/Web Site** – After applause for the new Marin OA Web site, Mary presented copies of the new Marin Rainbow and gave two receipts to Ellen. Pam said she would email the revised December minutes to Mary, who said she would like to post the By Laws of Marin Intergroup on the site. Kim has a hard copy, but an electronic version is not available. Ellen said the By Laws should be revised this year, but not so much that we should wait to have them typed up. Miller offered to type them.

Discussion ensued about anonymity issues on the Web site and the Rainbow. It's normal to offer the three people's names and phone numbers for the Helpline, all of whose names and permissions Mary has confirmed. Kathy said she did not feel it was proper to have the Intergroup board members' phone numbers on the Rainbow or on the Web site. The group agreed unanimously that they didn't want their personal telephone numbers on the Web site or the Rainbows.



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Mary said that she'd added an opt-in email feature to the Web site that enables people to give their email addresses in order to receive important notices about meeting changes and upcoming events. That email database is only accessed and maintained by the Webmaster, who keeps them private and people can opt out anytime they want. A discussion ensued about Meeting Reps actively recruiting OA members to go to the Website to enroll by giving their email addresses. It was suggested that members might also be approached to write their stories for the back page of the Rainbow. Miller deferred that item for discussion to the next Intergroup meeting.

**Public Information** – Jacob announced that he hadn't done anything yet and is starting fresh with his Public Information position.

### Group Rep Meeting Status Reports:

**Monday 9:30 am** – While Curtis wasn't there last week, Jacob reported that things (there) are great.

**Monday 6:00 pm** – The acting Rep, Roselyn said the group is great. Pam added that the group is growing and has added chairs for the overflow crowd every week.

**Tuesday 7:15 pm** – Kathy said the group is fine and that we should all anticipate big increases in attendance at groups over the next couple of months.

**Wednesday/Thursday 7:30 pm** – Robin said the meeting is doing great; it has about 12 members.

**Friday 9:30 am** – Tawna reported that the meeting is growing and the church has been asked for more chairs.

**Saturday 10:45 am** – Saturday still needs a Rep.

**Sunday 6:00 pm** – Ashley said that the group is good and has been growing over the last few months; and that there are usually 12 people at the meeting.

**Retreat Liaison Report** – Ellen brought up the men's event, to be held on the Saturday (Oct. 10) of the Retreat Weekend (Oct 9-11.). The distribution of fliers to Intergroup for the women's retreat is planned for February with details being finalized at the next Retreat meeting. Jacob and Curtis will work to finalize some details for the men's event.

**World Service** – this position is still open. Ellen said that Susan has a conflict and cannot take it on.



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### Old Business –

Ellen presented a final draft of the budget figures for the rest of 2008 and 2009. She had revised the amounts down for Public Information and up for Special Events. Discussion ensued about the budget for 2009 and the fund raising that would become necessary to add monies to the treasury should someone be named to the World Service position. The deadline is past to provide the name of the Rep for the WS position, which requires a weeklong trip to Albuquerque, New Mexico in May.

As the meeting was drawing to a close, Pam interjected that she had the approved Crosstalk description for the groups. Meeting reps and others took copies and some remained to be left on the table at the Saturday meeting.

Next meeting is February 14, 2009 at 9:15 am

Meeting was adjourned at 10:25 with Rosanne's prayer.