

The Bridge Business Meeting Minutes FINAL

Date: July 07, 2024

Present: Paula S. Chairperson, Clare B. Secretary, Cindy A. Treasurer, Carol C. WhatsApp Mod, Ellen G. Service Coordinator, Mary Jane L. VR/WSO Rep, Jeff E. Web Team Rep, Deborah E., Rosalie D, Lois M., Patty M.

Vice Chair Absent

Open: At 6:30 EST with the Serenity Prayer **Minutes**

Approved: June 2024

Treasurer's Report - received via email - Cindy Ahern
May 26, 2024 to July 5, 2024 (an extra week due to me being on vacation)

Venmo: \$130.00 (22 contributions)
PayPal: \$19.00 (3 contributions) Total
contributions: \$149.00

Expenses:

Distribution to Virtual Region (70% of \$176.75): \$124
Distribution to WSO (30% of \$176.75): \$52.75

Starting balance: \$1,176.75
Contributions: \$149.00
Expenses: \$176.75
Ending balance: \$1,149.00

Prudent Reserve: \$1,000.00

Upcoming expense: next year's zoom fee in
March 2025 approx \$160
next year's WSBC in May 2025 approx \$400

Suggested Distribution twice per year in June and December:
70% to Virtual Region; 30% to WSO

Our 7th tradition Intergroup # is 09696 and all contributions to OA.Org should include this so the Bridge Intergroup will get the credit.

Election of treasurer repeated with Cindy present at meeting as bylaws [Article IV, Section 4B] state that
"nominees must be present at the election meeting."

Motion to elect Cindy A. Treasurer, Passed.

Webmaster's Report: Jeff E.

1. We now have all the information needed for logging into zoom, email accounts, and website.
2. Jeff reports that all payment accounts associated with Ellen Lorang have been removed. Everything is now attached to the group's debit card.
3. One item remains: to detach Ellen's personal email, phone, and address from ownership of the oabridge.org domain.

4. Jeff requests a \$50 PayPal account to handle incidental annual expenditures for web and email hosting, security, and privacy for the oabridge.org domain.

Motions:

1. Eliminate old, inaccurate information from oabridge.org domain ownership: **Motion Passed**
2. Fund PayPal account to maintain \$50 security and privacy of the oabridge.org domain: **Motion Passed.**

WhatsApp Report: Carol C.

1. New membership has gone from about 6 new members per week to about 3 and leveling off.
2. Jeff will be setting up direct access for a WhatsApp Bridge email.
3. A month ago, WA (WhatsApp) moderator discussed multiple postings of a daily meeting made by an individual and she has decreased her postings.
4. Carol would like to see a change made to the host notes regarding joining the Bridge WA stating that people should send their name and phone number to the relevant email; otherwise she is duplicating efforts and having to get back to them for that information.
5. Though not relative to WA, Carol reported that, in her role as host, in the action of removing people from a meeting, Zoom asks for our official email. Jeff replies it is webmaster@oabridge.org.

Virtual Region Report: Mary Jane L.

1. Regional Representative Assembly (twice annually) was held on the weekend of June 22nd and 23rd and Representative Mary Jane was 8 hours in meetings on Saturday and one hour on Sunday.
2. When small size of Bridge Intergroup was brought up by our representative, it was suggested that our intergroup reach out to "neighboring" intergroups for service assistance. (Groups such as Footsteps or San Diego; San Diego being an intergroup in which our rep is also active.)
3. It was also stated that it is considered by the region to be very important that the Bridge have IGRs (intergroup representatives) to bring issues forward and take information back to their home groups.

World Service Organization Report: Mary Jane L.

1. The WSO Business Conference has been held annually in Albuquerque, NM, this year from May 6th through the 11th, but next year will be held virtually.
2. Notes from the conference are posted in a sidebar on the Bridge website.

Paula S. reports for Diane T. from Virtual Region: There will be a new series of recovery panels and The Bridge was chosen to host the first one which will take place August 25th from 1pm to 3pm EDT. The presenters for this first panel will be Paula S., Lisa C., George T., and Pat C.

Service Coordinator Report: Ellen G.

1. Positions are filled for July.
2. Other service needs/points for discussion are agenda items to be discussed under new business.

Old Business:

Simplifying positions in the group, Jeff E.

Discussion:

1. Jeff proposes simplification of positions to decrease bureaucracy and support the work of groups to discuss and practice a spiritual program.
2. He states that he believes that from the small beginnings of the Bridge meetings, we have escalated to a complexity which is too great, needing an effort to continuously simplify and follow tradition 9.*
3. Jeff states that our current once a month business meeting includes intergroup business and interferes with getting to group business.
4. Ellen G. states that our monthly meeting is not getting to the “meat and potatoes” business.
5. Clare asks how group vs. intergroup business would be defined, and states her belief that it is time to have Intergroup Reps from each meeting.
6. Jeff thinks there would be trouble getting 6 new volunteer positions filled.
7. Mary Jane says the opportunity should at least be given to see if people would like to volunteer.
8. Rosalie maintains that having IGRs is a way to do service and grow the Bridge meetings. “Service is the way to get and stay abstinent.”

This item of business is tabled for further consideration.

*Tradition 9: OA, as such, ought never be organized; but we may create service boards or committees directly responsible to those they serve.

Chair calls for motion to adjourn; **Motion Passed.**

Follow-on motion to schedule a special meeting for Sunday, July 14th, 2024 @ 6:30 EDT, to continue the old business item and deal with New Business, for which there had been no time. **Motion Passed.**

New Business that we did not get to this meeting will be added to the special meeting agenda:

1. Chairs and Hosts for July, Ellen G.
2. Where can Hosts get training now? Paula S.
3. Keeping focus at meetings on Experience, Strength, and Hope. Paula S.
4. Create digital file for sharing readings, etc., Ellen G.

Meeting closed @ 7:50pm EST / 4:50pm PDT

Next Business meeting: Sunday August 4th, 2024 6:30 EDT

Current Leader & Host Schedule

July 2024

Sunday

Leader Julie
Zoom Host Cindy A. (back-up zoom host Clare B. on 7/14)

Tuesday

Leader Yaakov
Zoom Host Christine M.

Thursday

Leader Kristen B.
Zoom Host Lisa C.

Saturday

Leader Brendan M. (Back-up Leader, Christine M. or Ellen G. on 7/6)
Zoom Host Laurie K.