

OSPA Intergroup Meeting Agenda

Phone Number: (605) 472-5674 / Access Code: 175945#

Sunday March 7, 2021 / 12:15 – 1:00pm Eastern

1. Open the meeting with the “we version” of the Serenity Prayer:

*God, Grant us the Serenity to
Accept the things we cannot change
Courage to change the things we can
and Wisdom to know the difference.*

2. Volunteer for the timekeeper _____.

- a. Give reminders at 30 minutes,
then announce “time” when the meeting has ended.

3. Reading of the 12 Traditions of OSPA

4. Introductions - Attendance List

5. Last month's Meeting Minutes - reading or revision, approval (7th of February 2021).

6. Reports

- a. Chair - Katarina
- b. Treasurer - Greg (usual report + update on the tax status of OSPA)
- c. Webmaster - Maria (usual report + maybe the progress of the descriptions of service positions, the broken links when using a mobile phone, needed changes)
- d. Email Support - Gemma
- e. Chip Representative - vacant position

7. Quarterly Positions Elections (for April, May, June):

- i. Chair representative
- ii. Secretary representative
- iii. Treasurer representative
- iv. Webmaster representative
- v. Webmaster Assistant & Technology Support representative
- vi. Email Support representative
- vii. Social Media Account Moderator representative
- viii. Chip representative - Julie is still in physical possession of the chips. Vacant positions for someone to address issues relating to chips. In the meantime, while the topics such as shipping certificate, distribution of

chips, will we use the existing chips or not since they have the status of poker chips, reviving our original abstinence certificates, and how to deal with them are researched, there is an idea that chips could be taken from Julie and sent out as tokens of appreciation.

8. Unfinished Business:

- a. The Item for Discussion - Changing the title of the Intergroup meeting into the General Service Board. Suggestion to research some other fellowships and see how they are structured. A point was raised that intergroup in other fellowships are often regional. Any new information on the structure of other AA programs similar to OSPA, any new research done from the previous February meeting?

New information since the last meeting are:

Intergroup and general service boards usually perform different functions. Intergroup/central offices provide local services, such as public information, positions elections, electronic communications (website, social networks), literature, coordinate resources and funds, serve as the administrative committee. While general service board provides central services of various types, such as consultation between groups, intergroup, taking place regularly at service forums and workshops.

Based on the information, it is a matter of choice for the OSPA fellowship.

- b. The Item for Discussion - The tax status of OSPA. The treasurer and other members have been investigating whether there are any income tax implications for receipt of donations. The 7th tradition could be taxable. OSPA already has the tax ID number. Other fellowships were contacted to explore how they process taxes and legal questions. The conclusions of the last meeting were that we may need to hire an attorney or an accountant to handle this for OSPA. An announcement was made in meetings and the "Friends of OSPA" WhatsApp chat if any fellows have any expertise or contacts.

New information since the last meeting are:

7th tradition collections could be taxable at both the federal and state level. If the collections are less than a certain amount per year, probably OSPA does not owe any federal taxes, but the amount differs in different states so it needs to be checked (e.g., \$25,000 or \$50,000 a year in different states). Depending on the state, OSPA may not have to pay sales tax on purchases. The choice of the state to register can be led by in which state OSPA has the official address or a bank account (if OSPA does not have one, it should open it). The suggestion is to register as a non-profit with the federal and state governments, because even if OSPA do not owe any taxes, the required federal and state tax forms can easily be filled out and filed online each year. The organization has to be registered as a 501-C3 to take taxable deduction donations. If an organization takes in enough donations it may have to file a 990-tax return and these can only be submitted electronically now. Once registered, OSPA members will be able to deduct their contributions from their taxes (mostly valid only for the USA). Probably it would be best to hire a tax attorney or a local tax preparer company who is familiar with this process. There are some volunteers in OSPA who are willing to help with this topic and who already talked with the treasurer.

If we decide to go further with this, OSPA should address:

- register OSPA as an entity (corporation, LLC, etc.) at the state level.
- obtain a 501(c)(3) exemption from IRS / Non-profit
- look into requirements for getting a trademark and/or copyright for OSPA images, logo, etc.

If we decide to stay as we are, OSPA should change the Preamble to acknowledge its status.

- c. The Item for Discussion - The use of the mutual OSPA Zoom account (old business from September 2020) due to technical problems that cause larger issues. Who has the access to the Zoom account and how to reserve it for future events and new meetings? Do we need separate Zoom accounts? Who will finance the Zoom accounts?

9. New Business

- a. Discussion on approving and/or rejecting two new service positions in OSPA:

- i. Webmaster Assistant & Technology Support representative
- ii. Social Media Account Moderator representative

- b. Motion by Amy: A members move to rescind/reverse the motion adopted at the unknown month/year, meeting which changed the wording of Tradition 3 and removed the word "skin" before picking. This aligns it back with the following: Step 1- We admitted we were powerless over skin picking - that our lives had become unmanageable. Step 12 - Having had a spiritual awakening as the result of these steps, we tried to carry this message to other skin pickers, and to practice these principles in all our affairs. Tradition 5 - Each group has but one primary purpose - to carry its message to the skin picker who still suffers.

This is in accordance with RONR, 11ed., p.305. "This is the motion by which a previous action or order can be cancelled or countermanded. The effect of Rescind is to strike out an entire main motion, resolution, order, or rule that has been adopted at some previous time."

- c. Motion by Brenna: Opening discussion to update the word "God" and male pronouns "Him" in the 12 Steps and 12 Traditions on the website and meeting scripts, replacing it with "our Higher Power" (capitalized) to be more inclusive so that we can carry the message to all skin pickers who suffer, regardless of their own conceptions of God and regardless of what pronouns they use for their Higher Power.

Step 3: Made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of Gød [our Higher Power] as we understood Him [that Power]. Step 7: Humbly asked Him [our Higher Power] to remove our shortcomings. Step 11: Sought through prayer and meditation to improve our conscious contact with Gød [our

Higher Power] as we understood Him [that Power], praying only for knowledge of His [our Higher Power's] will for us and the power to carry that out. Tradition 2: For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority - a loving Gød [Higher Power] as He may be expressed through our group conscience. Our leaders are but trusted servants, they do not govern.

10. Next Intergroup Meeting

- a. Sunday, April 4th, 2021

11. Items to be Carried Over to the Next Business Meeting

12. Motion to close the meeting (if earlier than scheduled)

13. Close the meeting with the “we version” of the Serenity Prayer