

OSPA Intergroup Minutes – August 2024

Zoom URL: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89826297321> | Meeting ID: 898 2629 7321

Date: Sunday, August 4, 2024

Time: 12:15 – 1:15 pm Eastern Time

Attendees: Mackenzie (Chair), Jamie (Vice Chair and US Chip Rep), Kirra (Zoom Host), Greg, Emily (Secretary and UK & EU Chip Rep), Elizabeth C., Cassidy, Mark, Ula T., Dawn, Mera (Email Support), Brenda

Absent: Cathryn (Treasurer), Molly (Webmaster)

1. Opening

The meeting opened with the “We” version of the Serenity Prayer at 12:16 pm ET.

A timekeeper was appointed.

The 12 Traditions of OSPA were read.

Last month’s meeting minutes were approved.

2. Reports

- **Treasurer:** The Treasurer was absent, so their update was read by a member of the committee, giving a brief update on OSPA’s finances. The treasurer’s reports are attached below for ease of reference:

| TREASURER REPORTS | MARCH | APRIL | MAY | JUNE | JULY |
|------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Beginning of month's balance | 4,143.60 | 3,973.39 | 4,139.79 | 4227.54 | 4200.17 |
| Total contributions | 54.00 | 177.00 | 94.00 | 70 | 46 |
| Total fees and expenses | 224.21 | 10.60 | 6.25 | 97.37 | 8.76 |
| End of month's balance | 3,973.39 | 4,139.79 | 4,227.54 | 4,200.17 | 4,237.41 |
| Prudent reserve | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 |
| Remaining surplus | 2,973.39 | 3,139.79 | 3,227.54 | 3,200.17 | 3,237.41 |

A link to their full spreadsheet for those interested is shared here: [Treasurer Reports Spreadsheet](#).

- **Webmaster:** The Webmaster was absent, so their submitted report was read by another committee member. The report is included below for reference:

In the last 30 days the website had 636 unique visitors from 42 countries, with a total of 1133 sessions. The number of unique visitors is up 13% from the previous period while the number of site sessions was essentially the same with 2 fewer sessions. 62% of these sessions originated from mobile devices, 34% from desktops, and 4% from tablets. We had two form submissions directly from the website to OSPA support. Unique visitors by traffic source - 53% direct, 23% Google, 15% Wikipedia, 2% Bing and the remaining 7% from other search engines and referral sources. The most visited page was the Meetings page, followed by the Home page. The Newcomer Page had a big increase this month: up 46%. The average site session time also went up from the previous month to 6 minutes and 13 seconds long (approx 2 minutes longer than in June).

- **Secretary:** The Secretary requested approval to attend a self-paced course specifically designed for meeting secretaries, entitled "Meeting Minutes and Role of Clerk." The purpose of the course is to give the secretary confidence in taking minutes and serving their committee when parliamentary issues arise. The fee for this course is \$67 and the secretary was seeking approval for Intergroup to cover this expense. She also shared a link to the course where more information could be found: <https://jurassicparliament.com/courses/self-paced-course-meeting-minutes-and-role-of-clerk/>. It was noted this should be reworded as a motion and revisited as a New Business item later in the meeting.
- **Tax & Legal Committee:** The Tax & Legal Committee reported that taxes have been filed for this year. The Committee has reviewed by-laws to determine whether to adopt Robert's Rules of Order or another form of parliamentary procedure. They have drafted 12-step by-laws using ChatGPT and compared them with other resources. The Committee plans to make a recommendation for by-law approval in the future.
- **Email Support:** The Email Support position updated that OSPA had received 1 new enquiry via email this month which was responded to.
- **Chip Representatives:** The US Chip Representative sent no chips this month. The UK Chip Representative reported they sent out 2 chips this month (one 30-day chip and one 60-day chip).

3. Meeting Representative Updates

There were no updates from the individual meeting representatives.

4. Reports from Special Committees

- **Traditions Committee:** A brief report was given by the Traditions Committee on integrating skinpickingrecovery.org into some of OSPA's literature. They hope to have a more concrete update next month.

5. Unfinished Business

1. A motion was made for Intergroup to approve the call for daily reader submissions as official OSPA business for announcement at meetings. Cassidy, Sarah, and Dawn will collect, compile, and edit daily reader submissions for Intergroup approval upon completion. The motion was seconded and opened for discussion.

Discussion: Sarah, Cassidy, and Dawn were thanked for their initiative on this matter. The Chair asked a clarifying question regarding the motion, specifically whether it was for the approval of the project being compiled and created, rather than for its adoption. It was clarified that the motion was indeed for approval to make a call at meetings to receive submissions. The edits would then come back to Intergroup and potentially go before a Literature Committee before being presented to Intergroup for OSPA Conference Approved Literature approval.

Another question was raised about whether the Daily Reader group would provide monthly updates to Intergroup. It was noted that the group is hesitant to identify as an "official committee" and, while they may bring updates, they do not want to commit to monthly reports or the protocols of an official committee.

Following discussion, the motion was put to a vote: 12 in favor, 0 opposed. The motion passed.

2. Item: Discussion of questionable items in the "Our Story" portion of the website and updating it to reflect alignment with the reality of the group's media relations and the 12 traditions.

Since the individual who raised this issue was not present to address it, it was agreed to keep the topic on the agenda for the next Intergroup meeting. If the individual does not attend the following meeting, the item will be removed from the agenda.

6. New Business

1. A motion was made to delete the word "hideous" from the OSPA Preamble. The motion was seconded and opened for discussion.

Discussion: It was noted that Intergroup had previously voted to remove references to trichotillomania and self-mutilation from the OSPA Preamble, but these changes have not been reflected in all individual meeting scripts. This was identified as an issue that needs to be addressed at the meeting level, with Intergroup representatives expected to communicate and implement these changes in their respective meetings.

Concerns were raised regarding the process for making literature changes, including the speed at which amendments can be made. The absence of a Literature Committee was also highlighted, emphasizing the need for such a committee to handle these issues effectively. Without a Literature Committee, there was discussion on how changes are communicated and implemented across meetings and by individuals.

Acknowledging the lack of a formal process for voting on literature changes, the motion was put to a vote before Mark chose to table the motion. Discussion ended on the need for by-laws and proper procedural process, to be continued (and facilitated by the Tax & Legal Committee's work) in subsequent Intergroup meetings.

2. A motion was made by the Secretary for Intergroup to approve their attendance in a self-paced course specifically designed for meeting secretaries, entitled "Meeting Minutes and Role of Clerk," with a fee of \$67.

The motion was put to a vote: 9 votes in favor, 0 opposed. The motion was passed.

Action: Secretary will speak with the Treasurer about requesting the funds and proceed with booking the course.

Items to be carried over to next month's agenda

1. Item: Discussion of questionable items in the "Our Story" portion of the website and updating it to reflect alignment with the reality of the group's media relations and the 12 traditions.

Closing

The meeting closed with the "We" version of the Serenity Prayer at 1:17 pm ET.

Next Intergroup Meeting Date: Sunday, September 1, 2024.