

July 17, 2022 6:00pm Agenda

NOTE: This meeting will be held by ZOOM

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85803016541>

Meeting ID: **858 0301 6541**

Passcode: **344784**

One tap mobile

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+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

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GMNI needs a Treasurer!

The term will begin in September 2022. If anyone has an interest, please contact Nance at the email address at the end of this agenda, notify your Group Representative and/or attend the meeting on 17 July!

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GROUP REPRESENTATIVES ARE ALSO NEEDED. Just Six Zoom meetings per year (every other month, usually one and a half hours). Each Group determines Group Representative requirements (abstinence, length of time in OA, etc.) or just be a Group member. More than one person can attend on behalf of a Group, but each Group has only one vote on matters requiring a vote.

Meeting Opening: Serenity Prayer

**Anyone can ask for the Serenity Prayer at any time during the meeting*

- Introductions/Check-ins/Welcome

- Reading of Concepts of Service 6 and 7
- Approve Minutes (including making any corrections) from May 2022 meeting, attached at the end of this agenda. Please read before the meeting, so the vote can be taken without having to wait for people to read them. Thanks!

Reports

Treasury- Nance acting as *temporary* treasurer. GMNI **must** have a treasurer elected in September 2022, the next GMNI meeting. Our by-laws require that there are four board positions, not three. Having the treasurer position unfilled also disallows an opportunity for someone to provide service to GMNI, and having another Board Member also serve as Treasurer (for other than an temporary period) is a very bad business practice.

Treasury Report and Tradition 7 Report and additional information as follows:

- GMNI's "Assumed Business Name" registration was renewed and is now in effect until 2027. A "Change of Agent" was also made, in Nance's name and address. and it is something that should be changed each time a new Chair is elected. A name and physical street address must be provided. The Vermont State system is not set up well for 12 Step-type non-profit organizations, but it is what must to be done to operate in Vermont.

Website report- Joshua

Phone report- Katrine

Old Business –

- WBSC was held virtually in April. The initial report is available at oa.org
- Karen G. of Saint Johnsbury has volunteered to be GMNI's Delegate to the WSBC meeting in Albuquerque in April 2023. Applications for her travel assistance are being sought through Region 6 and the WSO.
- Sue has agreed to be GMNI's representative to the Region 6 Assembly in Fall 2022. It will be Virtual, on 21-23 October 2022. **There is opportunity for at least one other to attend.** The registration fee (if any) will be covered by GMNI.
- GMNI's three Zoom accounts have not yet been changed

over to annual billing, pending outcome of the vote on the Intergroup name change.

- GMNI positions needing to be filled as of September 2022: Treasurer and Meeting List Holder, are there any others? An Alternate key holder for our PO Box is a service position: Does anyone know who besides Judi has a PO Box key? Do we need to have someone volunteer to be the second key holder?
- **VOTING Item-** Should the operating name of GMNI be changed? One suggestion "Vermont OA Intergroup". Are there any other suggested names? If more than one, a vote will be taken to use one going forward. A VOTE to change the Operating/Business Name in the By-Laws, and with the State of Vermont will take place at the 18 September 2022 meeting. If the Intergroup name is changed, the following costs will be incurred: there will be another fee to pay the State of Vermont, and new checks from Community Bank will need to be printed, and the existing checks destroyed. Our Freedom Voice phone service, 1and1 internet service, and all three Zoom accounts will need to be notified of the name change, as will the Post Office. The WSO and Region 6 OA will also need to be notified. If it is decided to move forward with a name change at the September meeting, then notifications to all these entities will be divided up in September, so the work doesn't all fall on one person.

New Business –

- **Voting Item-** This item does not affect GMNI by-laws, thus can be voted on immediately.

Should GMNI set up an automatic debit payment from the GMNI bank account to FreeConferenceCall.com, instead of sending an annual donation?

A donation was made in 2020 (\$120.00), not done in 2021, and not done as yet in 2022. Depending on their business practice, the payment would be monthly or annually. The "Market Rate" suggested by FreeConferenceCall.com is \$15.00 per month. The debit can be established with FreeConferenceCall following the determination of our Intergroup's name, in September.

General Information –

- **Lifeline** Is Returning! It has not launched yet, but submissions are desired. Go to <https://oa.org/lifeline> and there is a form to click on to make a submission.

If you have something you'd like added to this agenda, please contact Nance at nancewells@hotmail.com or call: 802-345-8737. Thank you!

GMNI Meeting
May 15, 2022 @ 6:00pm

ATTENDING:

Nance W – Chair – nancewells@hotmail.com

Sue C – Secretary – sue.church43@gmail.com

Carol – Meeting List Holder - CarolM (themoreys4@charter.net

Karen – St. Johnsbury - karen.goetz53@gmail.com

Ramona – Middlebury - prakposani@gmail.com

Meeting Opening: Serenity Prayer

Introductions/Check-ins/Welcome

Reading of Concepts of Service 4 and 5

Approve Minutes from March 2022 - Karen moved that the minutes be accepted as printed. Nance seconded. The motion was passed.

REPORTS ** NOTE – Please submit reports to Sue *one week* prior to meeting

Treasury – (Nance acting as temporary treasurer)

- Current balance = 48282.84 Tradition 7 (11/2021-4/2022 = \$1796.48 Expenses = \$162.84
Working capital = \$7882.84
- Judi is picking up from the mailbox and depositing checks.
- GMNI's "Assumed Business Name" registration expires on 1 July 2022. It is already in the budget for 2022, and will in effect until 2027. A "Change of Agent" is also needed, it is something that should be changed each time a new Chair is elected. A name and an actual street address must be provided. The system isn't really set up well for 12 Step-type non-profit organizations, but it is what needs to be done to operate within Vermont. I (Nance) will investigate further what is needed to make the Agent change.

Web Master – no report. Joshua will start joining us in July

Phone Committee - Katrine reports that the phone system is generally running smoothly.

OLD BUSINESS

- Spring Assembly – Sue attended. Much of the meeting focused on the changes that WSO is making to the Board of Trustees and Regional Representatives. See the WSO website for details.
- WBSC was held virtually in April. Updates at oa.org – Click this link <https://oa.org/a-step-ahead/>, and then click the "View PDFAn" button, to see what was discussed at the World Service Business Conference, held virtually in April 2022. A wrap-up report is not yet available, so no telling what the outcome of each item to be voted on was...
- By-laws wording change introduction (vote on at May meeting)- Article III Members, Section 1-Membership, Item B) ***reads as follows:*** Intergroup representatives (IRs), which consist of one member from each group. group. **The changes to be discussed:** Intergroup representatives (IRs),

which consist of **one vote per group, regardless of number of group representatives present at an intergroup meeting.** -Nance

This would also necessitate changes to Article III Members, Section 3 Intergroup Representatives, Items A) and B). Item A reads: Intergroup representatives (IR) will be selected by the group conscious of the group they represent. **Suggested addition to Item A:** A group may have more than one representative, but each group has only one vote in Intergroup meetings. **Suggested addition to Item B:** A grammatical change only, from the singular "IR" to the plural "IRs".

- Ramona moved that the changes be adopted. Karen seconded. Motion passed.
 - Nance will make the changes to the By-Laws (including the change approved at the March 2022 meeting), change the "revised" date of the By-laws, and send the new version to Joshua to replace the version now posted on the GMNI website.
- Brainstorm Ideas for Outreach- Nance GMNI has \$500 earmarked, and can get matching PIPO Blitz Funds from R6. A submission is due by 29 July 2022 for the R6 PIPO group to decide. if our idea/project is selected, we will be notified at Fall Assembly 2022. Any ideas? An ad hoc committee needed?
 - Ramona suggested that we use the funds to encourage groups to attend meeting by providing travel expenses when appropriate and more information about what GMNI does.
 - Nance has a job description for a group representative that we will consider at the next meeting.
 - Karen encouraged that we keep it brief, emphasizing this as a communications opportunity.
 - We need a newsletter and someone willing to write it! A service opportunity for someone!

NEW BUSINESS

- Meeting List Format Decision - The current format is very hard to amend, there needs to be a simpler version used. Carol provided examples months ago (Sue can screen share them)
 - After viewing the various meeting formats, it was decided that the example from an Excel spreadsheet that Carol created makes the most sense and is the easiest to read.
- Determine if GMNI will be sending a Delegate to the WBSC meeting in Albuquerque in April 2023. If no one interested in going, begin brainstorming what to do with the funds that have been set aside for the past 3 years.
 - Karen would like to attend the meeting. Nance will provide information about applying for grants from the WSO, and Karen will research what is available through Region Six.
- Convert one, two, or all three Zoom account to annual payment, rather than monthly? Currently GMNI pays 3 accounts at a monthly rate of \$14.99 per month, \$179.88 per year per account, or a total of \$539.64 per year for all three. If these were Annually paid accounts, GMNI would pay \$449.70 per year, a savings of \$89.94 per year. The Annual payment plan averages out to \$12.49 per month. The account changes could be made in such a way as all three are paid at the same time, or distribute the three payments over the course of a year. It's a matter of cash flow, to decide how to pay these bills. Each account would remain separate, so any one (or more) of

them could be cancelled by GMNI if down the road it seems ~~all~~ three accounts are no longer needed.

- Karen moved that all 3 accounts be moved to annual payment. Sue seconded. The motion was passed.
- A decision needs to be made about how to contact each Group. There is a need to have a representative from every Group affiliated with GMNI at these meetings. The “current” GMNI attendees are and have been doing maximum duty for some time. We need more people if a healthy intergroup is to continue.
 - Attendees divided up the list of meetings. We will call using the information presently available and verify if each group has a GMNI Rep; who is the meeting contact with email address and phone number.
- GMNI positions needing to be filled as of September 2022: Treasurer and Meeting List Holder. Are there any others? An alternate key holder is a service position. Does anyone know who, besides Judi, has a PO Box key? Do we need to have someone volunteer to be the second key holder?
 - We confirmed that the positions of Treasurer and Meeting List Holder will be open in September.
- Should the name GMNI be changed to something like Vermont OA Intergroup? Does anyone know the history behind GMNI’s name? This does not have to be decided before the renewal of GMNI’s registration with the State of Vermont, but would probably result in an additional charge for the name change.
 - Food for thought. Nance will investigate the cost of changing our name.

GENERAL INFORMATION TO SHARE

- Lifeline Is Returning! You Can See It as a New Blog at <https://oa.org>