

-FINAL MINUTES-
Central Colorado Intergroup Meeting of Overeaters Anonymous
Meeting Minutes - December 6, 2022

1. Call to Order and Welcome

2. Readings

Meditation Reading on Service – read by Lori C.

Tradition 12 – read by Bev J.

Concept 11 – read by Cindy C.

3. Introductions – Lori C.*, Jan B., Judy (visiting from Pikes Peak IG), Shannon G.*, Al S. (visiting from Northern Colorado IG), Bev J.*, Marcia V.*, Jenn, Leslie H., Mike K., Norma Jean*, Shanna F., Heidi B., Dana B.*, Pam*, Ruth S.*, Cindy C. (*indicates representing a meeting)

4. Welcome to the Newcomer (if applicable) – Newcomer greeter: all present

5. Preamble to the Meeting

6. Spiritual timekeeper: Mike K.

7. 7th Tradition

- a. Please make via PayPal

8. Review, amend, and approve DRAFT minutes

- a. Mike K. moved we approve minutes
- b. Shannon seconded
- c. Minutes were approved with 1 abstention

9. Officer Reports

- a. **Chair** – Carrie G. was not present. Jan B. read the chair report.
 - i. Thanks to Mike K., Cindy C. and Jan B. for meeting over a conference call for 45 min this past month to discuss a proposed merger of Colorado intergroups with CCIG. This proposal was brought to CCIG by the Chair of Northern Co. Intergroup-Haley M. During this call we were able to discuss the many actions that would be necessary if this were to occur. Many thanks to a working document that Mike K put together (attached - Merger Consideration Items).
 - ii. Carrie received our audio recorder back from John Q. at the Nov. 12th event. Thanks to John for capturing the three speakers who discussed Entire Abstinence. This invaluable material will be posted as podcasts to our OADenver.org site.
 - iii. Carrie was thrilled to hand over the closed Golden meetings literature box and supplies to a new meeting that opened in Glenwood Springs just in time to host 4 fellows to gather before the High Eating Holidays of Thanksgiving on 11/17/22. Every Thursday 6:30-7:30 at the First Presbyterian Church at 1016 Cooper Ave. in Glenwood Springs.
 - iv. OA News:
Our region is 3 has THREE open positions for Region III Trustee's
Region III can send up to three Trustee Nominees to WSBC 2023. Normally, Region III Representatives vote on and approve Trustee Nominees at the Fall Assembly. Trustee Applications need to be received by the World Service Office by 26 January 2023. The Region III Steering Committee needs to receive the applications by 12 January 2023 in order to review, approve and forward the applications to WSO.
- b. **Vice Chair** – Lori C.

- i. Lori C. shared her application for the Intergroup and talked about her experience in business. She said that she has been attending intergroup for several months and wants to start contributing by being on the board. She said she has been abstinent since she joined OA over 11 months ago. She has a sponsor and has sponsorees. She has worked through the 12 Steps. Dana B. said that she attends a group with Lori. She said that Lori C. started giving service immediately in the group and at workshops. She said that Lori can be counted on to follow through on her assignments.
 - ii. A vote was taken and Lori C. was elected unanimously to the position of Vice Chair.
- c. **Corresponding Secretary – OPEN**
- d. **Recording Secretary – Cindy C.**
 - i. The board agreed to give the previous chair, Ruth S., a gift card for \$40.00 in appreciation for her service. Cindy C. will mail that to her.
- e. **Treasurer – Jan B.**
 - i. Income:
 - 1. In November we had \$991.97 in 7th Tradition
 - 2. \$863.75 in NYL Registrations.
 - ii. Expenses:
 - 1. paid \$75 rent for the workshop in March
 - 2. We were refunded \$500 that we paid for Social Media work that was not performed
 - iii. Current Bank balance as of 11/10/22 is \$11,431.22

10. Standing & Ad-hoc Committee Reports

- a. **Communications & Technology Committee – Heidi B.**
 - i. Thank you to Kim T. for Meeting Lists and website calendar updates, to Carolyn C. for zoom accounts, to Matt E. for Website edits and support and to Shannon G. for Website content updates.
 - ii. Big Thank you to Camile for 2 years of Eblast newsletters. Camile served for 2 years and is retiring. A new Eblast editor is needed. Camile will train someone. It takes 1-2 hours per month and can be done from home. Dana B. said that she will talk with Camille and will consider being the new editor.
- b. **Region III Rep/WSBC Delegates – Mike K. and Bev J.**
 - i. Mike reported that new business motions are due to the World Service Business Office this month. In January, all the motions will be announced by WSBO. In February, votes will be taken to decide which motions and ByLaw amendments will be discussed at the WSBO Conference.
- c. **Twelfth Step Within – Leslie H.**
 - i. For the New Year's Day lunch, Leslie needs donations of masks, rubber gloves, an old mailbox, easel, hand sanitizer and markers. Leslie needs volunteers to help make the luncheon a hybrid meeting.
 - ii. Fifty-five people have registered so far.
- d. **PI/PO – Shannon G.**
 - i. No report
- e. **Unity with Diversity – OPEN**

11. New Business

- a. Proposed merger of Central Colorado Intergroup with Pikes Peak and Northern Colorado Intergroups. Mike K. led the discussion.
- i. Mike K. said all 3 intergroups in Colorado are having problems finding enough people to fill the intergroup positions. Other states are having the same problem. OA membership overall has been decreasing. It's harder to twist arms to get new people to do service over Zoom.
 - ii. Mike K. said the purpose of Intergroup is to carry the message of OA recovery to the still suffering compulsive overeater within a geographic area. If groups are not affiliated with intergroup, it becomes more difficult to spread the OA message.
 - iii. Judy C. from Pikes Peak Intergroup said that they had elections this year for the intergroup board. They were only able to elect a treasurer. They have no chair, vice chair or secretary. The previous board members were getting burned out. Some people don't want to merge with CCI. Unless someone volunteers to fill those positions, they will have to consider merging with Central Colorado Intergroup.
 - iv. Al S. from Northern Colorado Intergroup said they were experiencing the same thing as Pikes Peak Intergroup. He said that they did not have elections because of the discussion about merging. Very few meeting representatives show up at intergroup meetings. The groups may not see the value in having an intergroup
 - v. Mike K. created the Merger Consideration Items (see attached). The first thing necessary is to get a buy-in from Pikes Peak and Northern Colorado. There has been animosity among the Colorado intergroups in the past. CCI was accused of having all OA events in Denver. If two or all three of Colorado's Intergroups want to explore a merger, the process needs to be transparent. CCI is not trying to force their will on the other intergroups. Mike K. recommends a committee of 3 people from each Intergroup be formed. That committee could use the Merger Consideration Items list as a framework for working through a merger.
 - vi. Jan B. said that Pikes Peak Intergroup is scheduled to have the OA State Convention this year. She said some members from that intergroup approached her and asked if CCI could help with the Convention because PPSI didn't have enough people to organize it. That prompted a discussion about merging intergroups.
 - vii. Mike K. said that the intergroups need to look at the pro's and con's of merging. One of the pro's for merging would be having a larger pool of people to fill intergroup positions. Another pro for merging is eliminating the need to maintain 3 separate websites.
 - viii. Mike K. said that Region 3 and World Service have not given any guidance on how Intergroups can merge. He said that the First Tradition was a guidepost: Our common welfare should come first; personal recovery depends upon OA unity.
 - ix. Dana B. said that the committee could focus on the items that have geographic significance. Mike K. responded that rotating position would address some of that.
 - x. Heidi B. suggested that an information campaign be done in all 3 Intergroup areas letting all Colorado OA members know that a merger is being considered. A FAQ page about the merger could be on the websites.
 - xi. Al S. said that his OA program has become less geographically focused because of Zoom. He does not see OA as shrinking as much as it is shifting because of technology. Jan B. said that she believes there is a desire to have more in person OA events as evidenced by the attendance at workshops and the State Convention this fall.

- xii. The general consensus is that the merger process needs to be done slowly, so that all the details and consequences of merging are thought through and dealt with in the best way. .
- xiii. Dana B. made a motion: CCI agrees to be open to the idea of collaborating with Pikes Peak and Northern Colorado Intergroups to discuss merging. CCI is asking Pikes Peak and Northern Colorado Intergroups to respond to CCI with their thoughts. Lori C. seconded the motion. The motion passed with one abstention.

12. Old Business

- a. CCI meeting dates that conflict with holidays: Even though the next intergroup meeting is close to New Year's Day, it was the consensus to leave it on January 3rd.

13. Good of the Order

- a. None

14. Next month Service

- a. Newcomer greeter next month will be (not assigned)
- b. Early to set up will be N/A
- c. Meditation Reading on Service next month will be Cindy C.
- d. Read on Service will be (not assigned)
- e. Tradition and concept will be (not assigned)

15. Adjournment

Merger Consideration Items

Section 1: Intergroup (IG used in rest of document)

1. Does Northern Colorado IG or Pikes Peak IG have the IRS 501(c)(3) designation (Central Colorado Intergroup does not)?
 - a. If so, would the intergroup be willing to have the name changed to the new intergroup name per IRS rules and regulations.
2. Each IG would need to beg merger discussion with groups comprising their intergroup to determine if the groups would support such a merger.
3. Each IG would have to approve the merger and each intergroup would need to consult their bylaws for IG dissolution.
4. Each IG would need to contact the OA World Service Office, appropriate Region III officers, and the State of Colorado to inform these entities of each respective IG dissolution.

Section II: Merger Items

1. Determine time frame for merger – what year would merger take place?
2. Determine where the IG would be based – city and address would need to be discussed for permanent “residence” of IG.
3. Naming of the new statewide IG.
4. Fiscal concerns
 - a. Closing current IG checking and/or savings accounts (and other financial instruments if IG has them) to merge funds into new IG checking account.
5. Registering new IG with OA World Service Office, appropriate Region III officers, and the State of Colorado.
6. Preparation and approval of new bylaws and policy/procedures manual.
7. Determining which OA Zoom account to use if each IG has their own Zoom account.

8. Determine which OA website to use if each IG has their own website.
9. Determine day of week/time of day each IG meeting would be held via Zoom.

Section III: Intergroup Board/Region Representatives and World Service

Business Delegates

1. Chair, Vice-Chair, Recording Secretary and other Board members as listed in the new bylaws could be from any geographic location in the state.

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Business Delegates

2. Major concern would be the Treasurer as the financial institution chosen would need to have branches statewide.
 - a. Most financial institutions require the two or more signatories on any checking/savings account sign required paperwork in person (this can be resolved by how the bylaws are worded. CCI's bylaws state the other signatory may be a Board member or an appointee of the Board.)
3. The number of Region Representatives and World Service Business Conference Delegates will be determined by the ratio determined by the Region III bylaws and OA Subpart B bylaws. The new IG could have up to 4 Region Reps/WSBC Delegates.

Section IV: Action Steps

1. Contact Region III Liaison and ask if there is any precedence for other IGs merging and what actions or policies/procedures they took to facilitate such a change. Also to ask if WSO has any guidelines which might be of assistance regarding intergroup mergers.
2. Have IGs begin to discuss the idea of a merger at their next IG meeting.
3. Have members from each IG form a Merger Committee to discuss the items in Section II of this document. (Limit the number of committee members to 3 members from each IG?)
4. Hold Merger Committee meetings via Zoom, day and time to be determined by the committee.
5. Determine timeline for each Action Item to be completed.
6. Discuss talking points to take back to IG meetings after each Merger Committee meeting.
7. Be very transparent, clear, concise, and honest with the Colorado OA membership about the progress being made.