**Minutes of the MWI Business Meeting**

March 23, 2019

In attendance were Sue M, Recording Secretary; Blair P, Chair; Nate, Vice-Chair; Bob K from the Sunday Jamaica Plain meeting; Nancy G.P., Corresponding Secretary; Ken from Monday men’s meeting in Brookline; Rachel S, Treasurer; Mark, Sunday Framingham Newcomers; Margaret Ann, Retreat co-chair.

Blair opened the meeting at 9:05 am with the Serenity Prayer and an introduction of those present, the purpose of our meeting, and its etiquette. Bob read the 12 Steps, Nancy read the 12 Traditions, and Nate read the Concept of the Month.

Bob K and Nate volunteered to review the Minutes.

**Treasurer’s Report**

Rachel S gave the report for January and February. In January there was a lot of money put into the website, a little over $2000. Otherwise there were few expenses in February. Donations were also made to Region 6 and World Service. She will cancel the Zoom subscription. Balance is lower than usual because we have been spending down the balance, and somewhat fewer donations from groups are coming in. Suggestion was made that it is okay for groups to announce that the WSO suggested donation is $3.00. Discussion about asking Margaret Ann how many calls come in to the contact number on web site to the answering service, to decide if we need to continue that service. Nancy will check with Lisa D if there is a phone number for sponsor bank to put on website.

**Old/Ongoing Business**

* MWI Web and Social Media (Website, Google analytics, Paid Google ads, Mailchimp) report from Nancy:

She set up free Google Ad Words account, for nonprofits. Many people come to site and “bounce” right away to the oa.org site to find meetings. Not many people click on the ad that pops up on Google search page. She would like to set up more features of use to existing members, as well as newcomers. She added a News page, with updates of events that are happening locally and nationally. Ideas to get more use out of the site: let each group have their own page? Or a forum for local meetings? In survey from last year, groups want MWI to help with sending speakers, special events aimed at newcomers, and sponsor training. Various ideas were discussed. Nancy will mock up a page and send to reps to discuss at the next meeting.

* MWI meetings and contact from Blair:

Sue, Bob, Blair, Jen, and Terry have been calling group contacts to verify if info is updated. Some contacts need to be updated. Groups are needing help with membership. Some don’t have enough attendance to have extra money to donate to intergroup. The suggestion was made to do this every year.

* Liability Insurance for MWI from Nate:

He received a document from the company who insures MBI. To review why we are considering it: for venues that ask for liability insurance to cover events to protect individuals from liability. Discussion again about Directors’ liability insurance and if we need it. Most intergroups in the region have event liability insurance but not Directors insurance. Nate will continue to follow up.

* Retreat – Margaret Ann

She has made some flyers. This is the last year at Sacred Hearts Retreat Center. Price is the same as last year: $175. When the flyer is complete, it will be posted on website and sent out as a Blast. Retreat committee is meeting today. Beth B, Region 6 Trustee, is the leader.

* Strategic Planning for 2019, including Diversity, from Blair.

Unity with Diversity Checklist discussed. Checklist will be posted to website. How to address getting more members of color is a struggle for OA as a whole. It is important to remind people at meetings about diversity policy. There was a discussion about what attributes “diversity” applies to. Further discussion is needed.

**New Business**

* Nate will check with someone who could lead a sponsor training workshop.
* Region 6 Convention this year, in Westchester, will not sell merchandise, but they are opening it up to intergroups to sell their own products. They can use the Region 6 logo. Possibilities are to make a pin or pen or some other product that MWI could sell. Blair can apply to use the logo. It would be good to consult with other intergroups so as not to duplicate items. Nate and Blair will ask people at next month’s Region 6 Assembly. Bob will assist.

**Summary of Announcements for IG Reps**

* Retreat June 7-9 in Wareham (Sacred Hearts Retreat Center), “Using the Slogans to Work the Steps”
* Record and post podcasts, or listen to them
* Contact list announcement
* Look at new website and offer feedback.

The meeting adjourned at 10:36 am with Rozanne's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted by Sue Mascioli, Recording Secretary