**MWI Business Mtg Minutes**

**May 18 2019**

**Present**: Blair (chair), Nate (vice chair), Rachel (treasurer), Jen (Tues BBSS), Mark (Sun Framingham 7 pm), Bob (JP 9 am), Alex (Thurs West Roxbury 5:30 pm), Howard (Mon Night Men’s Brookline), Margaret Ann (retreat coordinator), Sarah (Wed Harvard Sq)

In Sue M.’s absence, Jen took notes.

Blair opened the meeting at 9:05 am and explained meeting etiquette. Bob read the 12 steps, Jen read the 12 traditions, and Alex read the concept of the month. Bob and Blair agreed to review the minutes.

Rachel presented the April treasurer’s report and it was unanimously approved. **ACTION: Rachel will send treasurer’s report around when the agenda is posted for each meeting, and contact Nancy to update the website link for each month’s treasurer’s report.**

Suggested Meeting Format

WSO has raised the suggested meeting donation from $3 to $5. **ACTION: Blair will ask Nancy to post update in email blast with a link to the** [**OA 7th Tradition Giving and Receiving Cycle**](https://oa.org/files/pdf/Seventh-Tradition-Cycle.pdf)**.**

Social Media Update

In Nancy’s absence, Nate summarized the social media update. We’ve had about 500 hits on the website and a 35% open rate on the email blast, which is excellent in light of industry standards. We are in danger of losing our non-profit status with Google due to low click-through rate, but Nancy is working with Google to prevent that.

Margaret Ann suggested sending a special email blast once/week regarding the retreat, and the group agreed that this would be a good use of the blast. **ACTION: Margaret Ann will contact Nancy to ask that the retreat be featured weekly in an email blast**.

Retreat

Margaret Ann reported on the retreat. We have 24 registrations thus far, 17 online and 7 via U.S. mail, which is a little low at this point in the calendar compared to previous years, but we are expecting more. The refund deadline is Monday, May 20, but people can still register after that. Seven out of ten scholarships have been used. We’ve collected $3591 in revenue thus far. The retreat leader is coming from Western MA, so travel expenses should be low.

Google Voice

We have an account now. Transitioning from Voice Nation will save MWI $49 / month. Moving forward, Alex will do service of answering the MWI line from now on. **ACTION: Margaret Ann will send the phone number to Blair, who will share it with Alex**. Discussion ensued regarding how long to keep the Voice Nation number while transitioning to Google Voice. This discussion was postponed until next meeting. **ACTION: Sarah will talk to Margaret Ann regarding the possibility of transferring the Voice Nation number to Google Voice, so we could keep the same number.**

MWI Meetings and Contact Info / Meeting of the Month

**ACTIONS: Now that she has all outstanding updates, Blair will compile and send the updated info out to group. Jen & Bob will then coordinate featuring a meeting of the month on the email blast.**

Insurance

Nate is still compiling quotes. Howard spoke in favor of liability insurance for the officers. He is not concerned about their behavior per se, but rather their liability for the behavior of others in the fellowship. **ACTION:** **Howard will contact Nancy to inquire about industry practices around having social media insurance.**

Sponsorship Training Workshop

Nate shared that Central Mass Intergroup (CMI) would like to do a joint event on Sunday, August 18 in the afternoon at Framingham Hospital. That weekend is the OA Sponsorship holiday. Don C has offered to walk Nate and Laura (CMI) through hosting such a sponsorship workshop. This is a structured workshop on how to be a sponsor, which includes utilization of OA literature, rather than a more open format of different kinds of sponsors sharing their experience, as we’ve had before. The group voted to co-sponsor the event with CMI. **ACTIONS: Nate will get back to Laura, and Howard, Blair, Bob, and Mark will work with Nate in planning this event**.

Carrying the Message Workshop

Region 6 PI/PO condensed a World Service workshop and are offering trainings for intergroups to hold these events. Blair attended a training in central MA. A representative from R6 PI/PO would partner with someone from MWI to put on the event. The group decided to put on this workshop in late September. **ACTIONS: Blair will send out the format to the group and pick a date for late September. Those present will think of folks we can tap to co-lead the workshop. [After the meeting, Alex volunteered to co-lead workshop with R6 PI/PO committee member]**

Speaker Bank for MWI

Blair suggested developing a speaker bank for MWI. **ACTION: Jen will recruit people and start building this.**

WSBC Report

Nate and Blair referred to Kara M.’s info-graphic and highlighted the following news from WSBC:

1. Approved new definitions of recovery & abstinence. **ACTION:** **Blair/Nate to contact Nancy to send this out in our email blast and update our website.**
2. Lifeline will cease publication at the end of December 2020, and cease accepting subscriptions at the end of December 2019.
3. The Young People’s meeting will be sponsoring a podcast.
4. Delegates voted to add Google custom search to OA.org to make the website more user-friendly.

MWI By-Law Amendment

Blair made some cosmetic/typo changes to the by-laws as well as proposed one substantive amendment regarding notification of MWI meetings. The proposed amendment brings the bylaws into conformity with current practice, and states that notice should go out by email 7 days before each meeting (rather than in hard-copy, written form 10 days before each meeting, which is what is stated in the By-Laws). The proposed amendment passed by unanimous vote. **ACTION**: **Blair will bring an updated text to the June MWI meeting.**

The meeting ended at 10:33 a.m. with Roseanne’s Prayer.

Next MWI meeting: June 15, 2019 from 9:05-10:30 a.m. in the doctors’ room of Newton Wellesley Hospital cafeteria.

Respectfully submitted,

Jen B.