**Minutes of the MWI Business Meeting**

December 19, 2020 MWI Meeting

In attendance via Zoom:

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| Blair | Chair | Rachel | Treasurer |
| Nate | Vice-Chair | Sue M | Recording Secretary |
| Nancy GP | Website Coordinator | Jay | Tuesday Eliot Church BBSS |
| Bob K | Sunday Morning JP | Barbara J | Sunday Morning BB Framingham |
| Janet F | Wednesday am HOW | Shelley | Sunday 6pm Brookline |
| Ronda | Sunday Framingham Newcomers (joined at 9:30) | Mark SH | Member (joined at 10:15) |
| Carmen D | Region 6 Chair | Beth B | Region 6 Trustee |
| Michael P | Corresponding Secretary | Lane | Member |
| Susan G | Thursday Noon Gov’t Center |  |  |

Blair opened the meeting at 9:05 am with the Serenity Prayer, an introduction of those present, a statement of the purpose of our meeting, and its etiquette. Janet F read the 12 Steps, Susan G read the 12 Traditions, Jay read the Concept of the Month, and Rachel read MWI’s Strategic Goals 2020.

Bob K and Michael P volunteered to review the Minutes.

**Old and/or Ongoing Business**

1. Treasurer’s report—Rachel

We received $1185.67 in donations in November. All except for $30 were via PayPal. We spent $150 on the website scheduler and $15.93 for Zoom. We gave extra money to R6 for the convention. In November we normally purchase Early-bird scholarships for next year’s R6 Convention, but that option is not set up yet. Our working balance is about $5100, which is a reduction from previous months.

Social Media Manager proposal: Nancy

Nancy showed examples of Instagram and Facebook accounts. They reflect the content from the website. Maintaining the accounts is fairly labor intensive which is why the proposal for a paid position. Volunteers Nancy and Michael P would approve content before it is posted. Beth B, R6 Trustee, gave her opinion that the sites would be attraction rather than promotion. Beth B gave a report on two trustees’ opinions on attraction vs promotion via social media. Some trustees had some questions as to why it would be a paid position rather than volunteer service. Nancy explained that after nearly a year of seeking a volunteer no one has stepped forward. There is a lot involved, several hours a week at least, in posting to the various social media platforms, as well the need for specific knowledge and experience. Comments also need to be monitored. Proposal is to hire someone, paid monthly for 3-4 months, to see how it works out. Cost is about $300 to $400 a month. The ad hoc subcommittee will meet this month, before the proposals are voted on.

Budget ad-hoc subcommittee will meet after the January MWI meeting: Susan G, Rachel, Bob

K, Blair, Sue M, Jay

1. Strategic Goal Updates

* Strategic Goals—Blair. Michael proposed a motion to remove mention of ‘2020’ on our strategic goals document; seconded by Susan G. Passed unanimously.
* Website—Nancy

We had over 2000 new users on the website, and strong traffic. We are targeting the younger demographic (18-34), and hits are being driven by GoogleAds. ‘Bulemia’, ’anorexia’, and ‘Overeaters Anonymous’ are the leading search terms.

* Social Media ad hoc subcommittee—Michael P, Kat L, Susan G, Shelley. They didn’t meet last month, will meet in the coming month. Nancy/Michael P will coordinate meeting.
* Diversity strategic goal ad hoc subcommittee—Bob K, Kat L, Sue A, Susan G, Damien, Suzanne, Barbara J. There have been email exchanges with good ideas. They will be discussing wording for a diversity strategic goal or statement, and ways to achieve that goal. Lane offered to serve on this ad hoc subcommittee. Lane will coordinate meeting.
* MWI Survey and suggested action items—Nate and all. There have been 79 responses so far. The goal was to learn more about the membership, how they found out about OA, how it’s working with COVID, etc. More people have been involved longer than they have been abstinent. A lot of newcomers, or those with fewer than 90 days of abstinence. Only one person who isn’t working with a sponsor said it was due to not being able to find one. A lot of people responded that they entered OA after COVID. Sponsor training, step studies, and events aimed at newcomers were the most valued services that the intergroup can provide. Beth B wondered if MWI is using “The First 12 Days of OA” as a way to keep newcomers close (available on OA.org).
* Visiting our groups—Sue M, Nancy, Michael P, Blair, Susan G, Ronda. Sue will continue to reach out to the Saturday Brighton meeting. Ronda has another meeting to attend. Michael has reached all his meetings. Several meetings have sent reps due to these visits. Ronda volunteered to contact group contacts for those meetings that haven’t sent an IG rep to remind them when the meeting is coming up.
* Joint speaker bank with MBI recommendation from ad hoc subcommittee—Sue M, Susan G, Jen B, Jack G, Michael P. There has not been a meeting yet. Susan G will coordinate the meeting.
* ‘Where Do I Start?’ pamphlet distribution to MWI meeting attendees—Mark. Still sending out pamphlets.

1. MWI 2021 Retreat ad hoc subcommittee—Mark S and Barbara J (with support for transition from Jen B and Carolyn V). Subcommittee met to gather facts and present to this meeting for what to do about the spring retreat. They concluded that a virtual retreat would be best, given the uncertainty of COVID conditions. Technical help, relevant topic, logistics, and schedule all need to be set up to have an attractive, successful retreat. Discussion included postponing until next year, considering the factor of Zoom fatigue, MWI has been doing regular workshops, and MWI will be hosting the YP retreat in March. Beth B gave a description of the New York retreat. More discussion next month.

**New Business:**

1. Region 6 reps: nominations to fill 2 vacancies—Blair. Michael P and Susan G volunteered to serve as interim reps through February 2021. Nominations will occur next month with voting in February 2021. Reps will serve through next year. R6 Assembly in the spring will be virtual. Blair will connect Michael P and Susan G with Carmen.

**Upcoming MWI events:**

**Sunday MWI Workshops**

When: Sundays, 1:30-2:30p Eastern time unless otherwise specified below.

Meeting ID: 705 658 2426, password 402152. See MWI website for call-in #s

* First Sunday of the month, special topics: 1/3/2021, Finding Your Food Plan
* Last Sunday of the month: Newcomers workshop: 12/27/2020

**World Service Young Peoples’ retreat:** March 6, 2021, 12pm to 12am Central Time. Volunteers Needed!

**MWI Retreat 2021:** Tentatively scheduled for June 4-6, 2021.

**Other events:**

Intergroup Renewal brainstorming sessions [hosted by Westchester United Intergroup (WUIG)]:

1st Thurs of month starting 1/7/2021, 7-8:30p EST <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/668275613>

Meeting ID: 668 275 613, Passcode: 121212

**Summary of Announcements for IG Reps**

* **MWI workshops**
* **WS YP retreat (‘e-Treat’) - Mar 6, 2021:** contact [oaypretreat@gmail.com](mailto:oaypretreat@gmail.com) if interested in volunteering!
* **Newcomer (WDIS) pamphlet**: email [markfromnatick@gmail.com](mailto:markfromnatick@gmail.com), subject line: ‘Newcomer Literature Request,’ ask newcomers to include their first name and last initial and their mailing address
* **To the Young Person pamphlet** is available as an e-book exclusively at [Amazon](https://read.amazon.com/kp/embed?asin=B08PG521RF&preview=newtab&linkCode=kpe&ref_=cm_sw_r_kb_dp_OBa0FbB154CXH), [Barnes & Noble](https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/to-the-young-person-overeaters-anonymous/1138407151?ean=2940162793670) and [Apple](https://books.apple.com/us/book/to-the-young-person/id1543933882?ls=1)

The meeting adjourned at 10:33 am with Rozanne’s Prayer.

Respectfully submitted by Sue Mascioli, Recording Secretary