

Minutes of the MWI Business Meeting

January 16, 2021

In attendance via Zoom:

Nate	Chair, WSBC delegate	Susan G	Thursday 12p Gov't Center, R6 interim rep
Bob K	Vice-Chair	Kat L	Thurs 7:30a Atheist / Agnostic, Meditation
Rachel	Treasurer	Meghan	Fri 6:15p Harvard Sq. BBSS
Michael P	Corresponding Secretary, R6 interim rep	Lane	Member, supporting diversity ad-hoc subcte
Blair	Recording Secretary, WSBC delegate	Laura C	Member, supporting social media (attended for social media portion of agenda)
Nancy GP	Website Coordinator, R6 rep	Liz D.	Member, supporting chat on MWI website (attended for social media portion of agenda)
Barbara J	Sunday 10a BBSS Framingham	Mark SH	Member, supporting distribution of WDIS pamphlets
Ronda	Sunday 7p Framingham Newcomers	Sue M	Member, learning about Treasurer role
Damien	Monday 7p Cambridge writing / meditation, sponsor bank coordinator	Michael C	Member
Jay	Tuesday 7:15p Eliot Church BBSS	Rob	Guest, central MA intergroup chair
Janet F	Wednesday 7:15a HOW newcomer workshop coordinator		

Nate 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. Barbara J read the 12 Steps, Jay read the 12 Traditions, Janet read the Concept of the Month, and Laura C read MWI's Strategic Plan.

Michael P and Susan G volunteered to review the Minutes.

Old and/or Ongoing Business

1. Treasurer's report — Rachel

We received \$1,674.67 in donations in December (\$482 in checks); annually we budgeted \$9,000 for 7th donations (received \$15,700. Expenses: \$150 for website (yearly fee for Later, scheduling software), \$425 (\$350 maintenance fee for Dec, \$75 for payment to have folks help optimize donation function on website.\$118.59 for Mark to send out where do I start?' pamphlets and \$15.93 for Zoom. Quarterly donations given to Region 6 (R6) and World Service (WS) are 10% and 30% based on 7th tradition donations (excluding any PayPal fees): R6: \$375, WS: \$1,126.79. Prudent reserve: \$600. Our working balance is \$4,286, which is a reduction from previous months. Budget ad-hoc subcommittee will meet after the January MWI meeting to create a budget for 2021 with a goal to spend down our working balance by carrying the message (subcommittee members: Susan G, Rachel, Bob K, Blair, Sue M, and Jay).

2. Strategic Goal Updates

• Website — Nancy

We had over 2,800 new users on the website, and strong traffic. Users are looking for meetings. We are targeting the younger demographic (18-34), and hits are being driven by Google Ad Words. "Anorexia" and "Bulimia" (A / B) also have a lot of traffic so Nancy created a page on our website and Michael P provided information to list one A / B meeting a day as a sampling (meetings listed from all over world). A / B pamphlets are on website, too. Nancy wonders if we could have a list of A / B sponsors, like our sponsor bank. We saw a dip in users on the website on 12/25/2020 and a very large increase in users on 1/3/2021. Distribution by sex (72% women, 28% men) is similar to our meeting demographic but we should be reaching out to more men. Blair mentioned that a new Men's Intergroup was recently created. More people using desktop instead of mobile due to COVID (important for us because certain functions aren't optimized for mobile use). In addition to the USA, the UK is strongly represented.

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Crisp chat function has been added to the MWI website & is working well. Currently we have 4 people supporting the chat (Michael P, Liz D, Laura C and Nancy). Free trial ending soon. The cost is £25 / month (~\$34 / month) for 4 people to support chat. Question from MWI rep: Do we control when the chat is available? No, we have the chat on 24/7, and when folks can reply, they do.

- Social Media ad hoc subcommittee (subcte)— Nancy, Michael P, Kat L, Susan G, Shelley. Nancy announced that Laura C will be the volunteer for social media. Laura C will promote events, volunteer opportunities, and concepts / traditions / steps on Instagram and Facebook (to start; may add other platforms as needed). Nancy mentioned wanting to have a TikTok channel for young people; would be hard to do video anonymously. Continue to discuss. Because many young people are online, we can boost posts & get the word out. Laura's background is in creative writing and has a business promoted on social media.
 - Diversity strategic goal ad hoc subcte — Lane, Bob K, Kat L, Sue A, Susan G, Damien, Suzanne, Barbara J. Lane reported that the ad hoc subcte met twice. Barbara J made a motion to add 'Support diversity and inclusion to better serve those underrepresented in MWI / OA' to our MWI Strategic Plan, Michael P 2nd, passes unanimously. The Ad hoc subcte will bring thoughts on how to accomplish goal to MWI in February.
 - Visiting our groups — Susan G, Blair, Jay, Sue M, Ronda. Nate suggests we have a revolving door of folks visiting our groups. Blair will reach out to volunteers. Plan to visit all groups by the end of February. Discussion around announcing our visits to meetings, waiting until later in the year to visit again (have 'space' between our recent visits and these next visits). One MWI rep is now a rep because another MWI rep / board member visited their home meeting.
 - Joint speaker bank with MBI ad hoc subcte — Sue M, Susan G, Jen B, Jack G, Michael P. Susan G said there has not been a meeting yet. Susan G will reach out to subcte to schedule a meeting before February's MWI meeting and bring proposal to MWI.
 - 'Where Do I Start?' pamphlet distribution to MWI meeting attendees — Mark. Still sending out pamphlets. 15 mailed last month to all over the US and Canada! Remind folks it's a physical pamphlet that is mailed to their address. Available as a hard copy pamphlet or as an e-book at Amazon, Barnes & Noble, and Apple.
 - Newcomer workshop coordinator – Nate. Janet F volunteered. Nate will connect Janet F with Lane for training. Nancy will connect Janet to Michael P and Laura C for any updates to website / blast or social media promotions.
 - Sponsor bank coordinator – Nate. Damien volunteered.
3. MWI 2021 Retreat ad hoc subcte — Mark S and Barbara J. Barbara J made motion to postpone retreat until 2022, Susan G 2nd, passes unanimously. Barbara J will connect with Jen B and Carolyn V to obtain retreat center contact information. Barbara J will ask that our \$500 deposit be used for a retreat in 2022.

New Business:

1. Region 6 reps: nominations to fill 2 vacancies — Nate. Michael P and Susan G were nominated.
2. WSBC agenda questionnaire — Nate. Nate will send the agenda questionnaire to MWI reps via email. Please review and let the group know if there are any proposed new motions / bylaw amendments that you do not want to be brought to the floor for discussion / vote by WSBC. The deadline to submit the agenda questionnaire is Feb 18, 2021 (before February MWI meeting).
3. Sponsor training workshop — Blair. Workshop will last 6 weeks. We will meet once or twice a week, starting in March 2021, and go through the document 'Temporary Sponsors: Newcomers' First Twelve Days.' Possible times for the workshops are Sundays and Thursdays at 5 pm or 5:30 pm EST for 30 minutes each, or Saturdays at 11 am

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for 1 hour. Blair asked that if folks have any strong opinions to please get in touch with her about the timing of the workshops. So far, one vote for Sat at 11 am.

4. **Possible new projects** — Tabled until next month.
 - Step Study (high demand based on survey)
 - Anorexic / bulimic meeting (high demand based on search hits)
 - Traditions workshop
 - Anything else to follow up from our recent [member survey](#)?

Upcoming MWI events:

Sunday MWI Workshops

When: Sundays, 1:30 – 2:30 pm 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: 2/7/2021, Finding Your Higher Power
- Last Sunday of the month: Newcomers workshop: 1/31/2021

World Service Young People's retreat: March 6, 2021, 12 pm to 12 am Central Time. Volunteers needed (e.g. Zoom room host and registration host, (training offered), other roles!). Info and registration here: <https://tinyurl.com/oayoungpeople>

Other events:

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

1st Thurs of month starting 1/7/2021, 7 – 8:30 pm Eastern time <https://zoom.us/j/668275613>

Meeting ID: 668 275 613, Passcode: 121212

Summary of Announcements for IG Reps

- **MWI Sunday Zoom workshops**: First and last Sunday of the month at 1:30 – 2:30 pm Eastern.
 - **First Sunday: Special Topics**
 - 2/7/2021: Finding Your Higher Power (see MWI website for more info)
 - **Last Sunday: Newcomers' workshop**: 1/31/2021
- **World Service Young People's retreat - Mar 6, 2021: 1 pm – 1 am Eastern**: contact oaypretreat@gmail.com if interested in volunteering! Info and registration at <https://tinyurl.com/oayoungpeople>. Please distribute the flyer at your meetings.
- **Newcomer (WDIS) pamphlet**: email markfromnatick@gmail.com with the following information: First name and last initial and their mailing address. The subject line of the email should be 'Newcomer Literature Request.' Mark will mail the hard copy pamphlet to them. Please let fellows know that this is a physical pamphlet that is mailed to their address.
- **Temporary Sponsors: Newcomers' First Twelve Days** available in [PDF](#) as a guide for a sponsor and newcomer to go through a short-term introduction to the OA program. Also available as an e-book at [Amazon](#), [Barnes & Noble](#), and [Apple](#).
- **To the Young Person pamphlet** is available as an e-book exclusively at [Amazon](#), [Barnes & Noble](#), and [Apple](#).
- **For the latest updates** on news, meetings, etc., always check the MWI website: <https://www.metrowestoa.org/>

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

Respectfully submitted by Blair P, Recording Secretary