

# Minutes of the MWI Business Meeting

October 16, 2021

In attendance via Zoom:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Michael P.	Interim Chair, R6 rep	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Steve M.	Wednesday 7:15a HOW, MWI hotline / phone coordinator
<input type="checkbox"/>	Sue M.	Interim Vice Chair, assistant Treasurer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Marge	Wednesday 12p Wellesley
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rachel S.	Treasurer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Suzanne D.	Thursday 7:30a Online Meditation / Writing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Blair P.	Recording Secretary, WSBC delegate	<input type="checkbox"/>	Susan G.	Thursday 12p Gov't Center / Online Literature, R6 rep
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ronda Y.	Corresponding Secretary	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Leslie M.	Friday 6:15p Cambridge / Online BBSS
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Nancy G. P.	Website coordinator, R6 rep	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Kathy B.	Saturday 9a Westwood
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Beth M.	Sunday 9a JP Steps, traditions, speaker	<input type="checkbox"/>	Michael C.	Special focus workshop coordinator
<input type="checkbox"/>	Susan R.	Sunday 10a Framingham BBSS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jodee S.	Member
<input type="checkbox"/>	Jay L.	Sunday 6p Brookline, newcomer workshop coordinator	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jeff B.	Member
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mary B.	Monday 12p Marlborough	<input type="checkbox"/>	Marianne	Member
<input type="checkbox"/>	Damien C.	Monday 7p Cambridge / Online Writing / meditation, sponsor bank coordinator	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mark S.	Member
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Alan F.	Monday 7p Brookline / Online Men's	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bob K.	Member

Michael P. 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. Blair read the 12 Steps, Jeff B. read the 12 Traditions, Kathy B. read the Concept of the Month and Beth M. read the MWI's Strategic Plan.

Steve M. and Kathy B. volunteered to review the Minutes.

## Old and/or Ongoing Business

### 1. Treasurer's report — Rachel

Rachel is covering 3 months of the treasury, July – September 2021. We are averaging ~\$1,000 / month in 7<sup>th</sup> tradition donations. Total quarter, we have received \$2,908 in 7<sup>th</sup> tradition donations. We send 10% to Region 6 (R6) and 30% to World Service (WS); R5 = \$290.80 and WS = \$872.40.

July \$1,298, made contributions to R6 and WS

Paypal \$31.71; monthly expenses \$1,440.14, monthly income (contributions), unpaid 7<sup>th</sup> tradition 129.80 R6, WSO 30% 389.40

PR 800

Working balance 5681.44

Aug Income \$958 Paypal \$30.73

\$5657.63

Sept income \$652, Paypal \$34.66

Xfer YP \$897

Working Balance \$5,555.17

### 2. Strategic Goal Updates

- **Website & Social Media** — Nancy GP

Overall website metrics: 1,700 users, 5,400 impressions, 200 clicks, 1,100 unique visitors. Impressions: 2,447 for MWI home page, 1,817 for 'Is OA right for you?' quiz, 1,376 for Meetings

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Google Ad campaign: 1,270 clicks, 21,000 impressions (Sept 13 – Oct 12). We received \$4,110 in ads; ads are free to us as a non-profit. The \$4,110 is the amount the ads would have cost us had we paid for them. Search terms that are most popular: OA, eating disorders, binge eating disorder. Top performing ad takes people to the Newcomer's meeting. , OA UK, OA meetings, FAA, oa.org, eating disorders [up 10% from last year].

Crisp chat was started in January 2021. The crisp chat is a function on the MWI website where folks can come online and can ask a question. If our volunteers are online, they will answer. Earlier in 2021, we purchased the crisp chat subscription that allows us to utilize the 'library' or helpdesk – this provides links for members to find information themselves (current offerings: contact info to attend MetroWest Intergroup meeting, links to Boston, NYC, LA, Central Ontario Zoom meetings, Calendar of meetings, MWI Newcomers Workshop, 15 question quiz, looking for a sponsor, newcomer meetings, etc.). Use of the chat is down due to use of the library. Thank you to Margaret Ann who is doing the bulk of chats. Thank you to all the volunteers, including Jen B. (coordinator).

The top sections of our website to where folks are turning to find information themselves are:

- |  |                                      |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| 1) Contact info to attend MetroWest Intergroup meeting (23 visits)     | 4) Newcomer's workshop (19 visits)   |
| 2) Links to Boston, NYC, LA, Central Ontario Zoom meetings (20 visits) | 5) 15 question quiz (12 visits)      |
| 3) Calendar of Meetings (20 visits)                                    | 6) Looking for a sponsor (12 visits) |
|  | 7) Newcomer meetings (9 visits)      |

Mail chimp (email blast / newsletter): Ronda is doing a great job with Newsletter! Thank you Rhonda!

Social Media – Nancy GP (Laura C. could not attend). Laura C. is continuing to post on Instagram. Laura C. is stepping down after 31 DEC 2021. Nancy GP thinks they may have found a volunteer to support this role.

- **MWI hotline / voicemail (phone call coordinator)** – Steve M.
  - August: 22 calls, 8 were missed, 2 voicemails, 8 calls with no one on other line (spam), 6 conversations of ~5 min. A fair # looking for face-to-face meetings.
  - September: 20 calls, missed 4, 1 voicemail, 15 spam calls.

- **Workshops:**  
SPECIAL TOPICS – Michael P. (Michael C. could not attend). No report.

NEWCOMERS – Michael P. (Jay could not attend). The numbers of newcomer attendees are lower. At the next MWI meeting, we should discuss how to increase attendance. Please reach out to Michael P. offline. Please note that the Sunday 5:15pm Brookline newcomer's meeting has been discontinued – Nancy GP was at the Brookline business meeting. There is another newcomer meeting in Framingham at 7p. Discussion surrounding whether to meet via zoom vs. in-person and not many attendees at the newcomer meeting at 5:15p. Decision was made not to continue it. One of our strategic goals is to welcome newcomers.

- **'Where Do I Start?' pamphlet distribution to MWI meeting attendees** — Michael P. (Mark could not attend). 2 pamphlets sent; One to Boston, One to Illinois.

## New Business:

1. **Nominations for officers / representatives / delegates in 2022** – Michael P.  
Per our bylaws, folks cannot serve for more than 6 consecutive years. By December 2021, Blair will have served for 6 years on the board. Blair will not serve on the board in 2022.
  - Board / Officer Roles:
    - Chair: Michael (accepted)
    - Vice Chair: Rachel (accepted)
    - Treasurer: Sue M. (not present, accepted)
    - Corresponding Secretary: Rhonda (declined), Barbara K. (not present, accepted)
    - Recording Secretary: Chloe G. (not present, accepted)
  - Representatives / Delegates:

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- R6 representatives (3): Blair (accepted), Nancy GP, Michael P.
- WSBC delegates April 2022-April 2024 (2): Blair (accepted), Susan G (not present, **Michael P. will ask**), Michael P (accepted). Blair and Nate's WSBC delegate roles continue until WSBC 2022.

## 2. Discussion of potential new or renewed initiatives for MWI: – Michael P.

11/11 officers and reps approve; 1 abstention (chair)

- Offer an audio/video library at the <https://metrowestoa.org> website. Let's create a *healing resource* by gathering *inspirational recovery (digital) links* from [OA.org](http://OA.org) or regions, as well as aggregate audio from qualifications, workshops, and more posted by other OA bodies.
- Outreach to professionals, Include physicians, psychiatric, psychological, counseling, nursing and nutrition providers. Resume staffing an OA information table at medical and related conferences.
- Public outreach. Libraries, hospitals, schools, nursing homes/assisted living, bariatric centers. Much beneficial sharing of information and resources could be achieved via internet or other virtual/ digital connections.
- "Twelfth Step Within" outreach. Email OA fellows monthly to suggest that on the 12th, members might contact OA friends/members they have not seen in a while to inquire as to their wellbeing.
- Rename "Blast" to "The Trusted Servant" and expand it:
  - Create a rotating series of "My favorite ..." Tradition, Tool, Step, etc. Two-to-four minute audio or video clips, self-produced by the contributor.
  - Include current reports of what MWI is doing. Include MWI monthly announcements, minutes.
  - Provide an annual report of what MWI did.
  - Give a list of service jobs available.
- Create original content for newsletter and website, in the form of 2-4 minute audio (video?) testimonials, relapse prevention, favorite tool (or meeting, or service, or Traditions, or...).
- Sponsorship committee. Provide guidance both for sponsors and sponsees,. Continue to update the existing sponsorship workshop format. Develop/aggregate resources from [OA.org](http://OA.org), other IGs, regions.
- Create a procedural manual for board posts, committee jobs, workshops, etc. This might pick up where the bylaws left off in giving more specific instructions to aid future fellows in providing service.
- Create a service coordinator. Build a list of members who might be willing to help MWI for special tasks. Reach out to meetings to suggest putting a call to service in their formats. "The 7th Tradition is not just for money."
- Create "Friends of MetroWest" list of one time or very occasional volunteer positions. This is for OA fellows who have less time available, but who are still willing to take on occasional service tasks. These would include doing one specific service initiative or helping others to make a service initiative happen. One time or very occasional volunteer positions
- Create an MWI WhatsApp group
- Workshop coordinator(s)
- Retreat organizers
- Create a Frequently Asked Question and Answer Column for <https://metrowestoa.org> website
- Peruse [OA.org](http://OA.org), other program websites for ideas to reprint or link to.
- Quality assurance for website.

## 3. Is it time to do another survey? Two officers thought this was a good idea but too much happening now with the new / renewed initiatives. Consider discussing in the Spring 2022.

### 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
  - 11/7/2021, topic: The God of my understanding [Lane]
  - 12/5/2021, topic: Spiritual Fortitude [Jason]
- Last Sunday of the month: Newcomer's workshop: 10/31/2021

### Other events:

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- Region 6 Convention next weekend, Oct. 22-24. [Registration remains open all weekend](#). \$35 or pay what you want to pay. MWI offers need-based scholarships, see announcements.
  - Friday 10/22 5-6pm MWI – leader and qualify for 20 min, co-host will put in chat
  - Donated \$300 to R6 to put into R6 pool to put up ads on Facebook to bring newcomers into the rooms
  - Trusted servants still needed for Zoom-related service jobs. [OA Region 6 Convention: OA Region 6 Virtual Convention \(V3\) \(signupgenius.com\)](#)
- Intergroup Renewal brainstorming sessions [hosted by Westchester United Intergroup (WUIG)]: 1st Thurs of month starting January 2021 (meets monthly, ongoing): 7-8:30 pm Eastern <https://zoom.us/j/668275613>; Meeting ID: 668 275 613, passcode: 121212

**Please see Summary of Announcements for IG Reps sent separately.**

The meeting adjourned at 10:33 am with the 'I put my hand in yours' prayer.

Respectfully submitted by Blair P, Recording Secretary