

Minutes of the MWI Business Meeting

November 20, 2021

In attendance via Zoom:

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

Bob K. and Sue M. volunteered to review the Minutes.

Old and/or Ongoing Business

1. Treasurer's report — Rachel

SEP 2021:

- Income \$652 (all via PayPal)
- Expenses: \$1,390.66 (Social Media \$400; Website \$59; PayPal \$34.66; Young People's Retreat \$897 (MWI helped support the registration process for the YP Retreat in March 2021; the \$897 was the income the YP intergroup collected for registration fees)
- Working balance \$5,555.17
 - Working balance EXCLUDES:
 - Prudent Reserve: \$600
 - Unpaid 7th tradition (trad.) for SEP: R6: \$65.20 WSO: \$195.60
 - Quarterly unpaid 7th trad. R6: \$290.80, WSO: \$872.40

→ **Bob K.** asked what the working balance was in AUG 2021, it was \$5,657.63

OCT 2021:

- Income \$809.51 (PayPal: \$510.51, Personal Checks: \$299)
- Expenses: \$1,592.55 (7th trad. R6: \$290.80, WSO: \$872.40; Social Media \$400; PayPal \$29.35)
- Working balance \$5,611.53
 - Working balance EXCLUDES:
 - Prudent Reserve: \$600
 - Unpaid 7th trad for OCT: R6: \$80.95 WSO: \$242.85
 - Quarterly unpaid 7th trad. R6: \$80.95 WSO: \$242.85

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2. Strategic Goal Updates

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

Overall website metrics: 2,300 users, 5,400 impressions.

Impressions by page:

1,765 for MWI home page

1,323 for 'Is OA right for you?' quiz

1,041 for MWI Meetings

Google Ad campaign: 2,050 clicks, 34,300 impressions (Oct 18 – Nov 16). We received \$4,840 in ads; ads are free to us as a non-profit. The \$4,840 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, MWI website, MWI meetings, and 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 (30 visits) | 4) Newcomer's workshop (19 visits) |
| 2) Links to Boston, NYC, LA, Central Ontario Zoom meetings (26 visits) | 5) Looking for a sponsor (17 visits) |
| 3) Calendar of Meetings (23 visits) | 6) Need a meeting NOW? Check out these links! (15 visits) |
| | 7) 15 question quiz (12 visits) |

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.

TikTok – 3 month contract with agency (August – October 2021). In error, Nancy approved an additional monthly payment for November (\$400) payment in error. Blair asked if the agency could provide metrics; **Nancy GP** will request. We do not know who 'owns' the TikTok handle 'YoungpeoplesOA;' we are taking their posts and promoting them.

Nancy GP has been 'getting into trouble' with National OA, they are wanting us to not have pictures of people on social media because they worry it tells members that anonymity can be compromised and that this is 'ok.' **Blair** serves as the delegate co-chair to WSO Public Information and Professional Outreach (PIPO) committee and would like to be included in future correspondence about this discussion.

- **MWI hotline / voicemail (phone call coordinator)** – Jay (Steve M. could not attend)

- October: no calls
- November: 1 call so far

- **Workshops:**

SPECIAL TOPICS – Michael C. Report on special topic workshop on 07 NOV 2021 [Lane]. Michael C. didn't attend. Suzanne attended; attendance was low. Nancy GP said that she didn't publicize the workshop very much and that's likely why attendance was low. **Nancy GP** asked that **Michael C.** provide Nancy with a 2-3 sentence description of the next special topic workshop so Nancy can include this info on the website to 'promote' the next session. May be useful for newsletter / blast, too.

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NEWCOMERS –Jay. The numbers of newcomer attendees are lower. How do we increase attendance? Nancy GP posts workshop info on our website and Laura C. posts on social media to drive people to the workshop.

- **‘Where Do I Start?’ pamphlet distribution to MWI meeting attendees** — Michael P. (Mark could not attend). Mark sent a report to the MWI group before the MWI meeting. Since 12 SEP 2021, 7 pamphlets were sent to Massachusetts (Amesbury, Boston, Holliston), Pennsylvania, Mississippi, and international locations (Sydney, Cape Breton Island, Nova Scotia, and Blackpool, England). In December, **Mark** will share information he received from a fellow during the Region 6 Convention about gifting electronic copies of this pamphlet.

New Business:

1) Voting 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.

Nominations:

- **Board / Officer Roles:**
 - **Chair:** Michael P.
 - **Vice Chair:** Rachel
 - **Treasurer:** Sue M.
 - **Corresponding Secretary:** Barbara K.
 - **Recording Secretary:** Chloe G.
 - **Website Coordinator:** Nancy GP
- **Representatives / Delegates:**
 - **R6 representatives (3):** Blair, Nancy GP, Michael P.
 - **WSBC delegates April 2022-April 2024 (2):** Blair and Michael P. Blair and Nate’s WSBC delegate roles for MWI continue until WSBC 2022.

Michael P. proposed a vote for the slate of officers / reps / delegates; Blair 2nd with friendly amendment to vote for the slate of officers / reps / delegates except R6 reps because there were 4 nominees for the 3 R6 rep positions.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY (10/10 voting)

Slate of Officers / Delegates:

MWI reps voted to approve slate of officers (Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer, Corresponding Secretary, Recording Secretary, Website Coordinator, and WSBC delegates).

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY (10/10 voting)

R6 reps (Blair, Nancy GP, Michael P., and Susan G.):

Michael P. had contacted by Susan G. via text to ask if she would like to be nominated for the R6 rep role (Susan G. had been serving as an interim R6 rep). Michael P. realized he texted Susan G.’s home #. Nancy GP emailed and called the cell # of Susan G. (seems that the # was disconnected?) at the time of the MWI meeting but couldn’t get in touch with Susan G.

MWI reps voted R6 reps (Blair, Nancy GP, and Michael P.) were voted in unanimously with 10/10 MWI reps voting.

2) Updates from new or renewed initiatives / ad-hoc subcommittees: – Michael P.

- **Jeff B.** and **Blair** have begun efforts to improve diversity and inclusion (D&I). Jeff B. and Blair mentioned that they are meeting weekly and have discussed several ideas. We have discussed that the D&I ad-hoc subcommittee may want to focus their efforts on LGBTQI+ and POC. We may want to survey the membership to determine which initiatives are most important and useful to the larger fellowship. **Barbara K.** has some experience with D&I initiatives and is willing to provide information.
- **Emily C.** will work on public outreach: Libraries, hospitals, schools, nursing homes/assisted living, bariatric centers. **Sue M.** would like to help. **Michael P.** will connect Emily C. and Sue M.
- **Ronda** will edit our online newsletter. **Ronda** asked, ‘What is the purpose of the newsletter?’ Some board members want a longer newsletter, and some want a shorter ‘blast.’ Ronda and Michael P. will discuss initially, and an ad-hoc subcommittee will be formed.

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Other new or renewed initiatives / ad-hoc subcommittees (no updates):

- **Jen B.** will work with Nancy on expanding our website offerings.
- **Jill B.** will lead our outreach to health-care professionals, including physicians, psychiatric, psychological, counseling, nursing and nutrition providers.
- **Wanyi** and **Janet** will work on "Twelfth Step Within" outreach.
- **Maryellen** is going to help create original content for newsletter, website, and social media, in the form of 2-4 minute audios or videos.
- **Toby** will lead our efforts to offer more support for sponsorship.
- **Elizabeth G.** and **Jeralyn** will surf to oa.org, as well as Region and larger-city intergroup websites, looking for ideas for content, or links to bring to all these efforts.
- We have about 20 names and numbers on the "Friends of MetroWest" list. These are people willing to do relatively easy and low-time-consuming tasks a few times a year.

MWI still needs:

- Social Media Coordinator as of 01 JAN 2022 (maybe 2 people?)
- Writer / editor for a procedural manual for board posts, committee jobs, workshops, etc. **Jay** is willing to do this service if a Newcomer Workshop coordinator can be named.
- Service Coordinator (role is to maintain and continue to build 'Friends of MetroWest' list, and to act as liaison between list and other trusted servants seeking help)
- Workshop coordinators
- Retreat organizers

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
 - 12/5/2021, topic: Spiritual Fortitude [Jason]
- Last Sunday of the month: Newcomer's workshop
 - 11/28/2021

Other events:

- 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 10:30 am with the 'I put my hand in yours' prayer.

Respectfully submitted by Blair P., Recording Secretary