

MBAR Committee Minutes

Zoom Meeting

Saturday, October 8, 2022

- I. Call to Order:
Saturday, October 8, 2022
Time: 11:00 am
- II: Serenity Prayer
- III: Tradition 10 was read: "Alcoholics Anonymous has no opinion on outside issues; hence the A.A. name ought never be drawn into public controversy." Mary Grace discussed this tradition, relating it to the Covid pandemic. She said that some meetings may have closed due to fear the disease would spread among members, attracting attention from those outside the program and making it an issue.
- IV: Introduction of first-time attendees: Jessica, Micah.
Total including all attendees: 21
- V. Recent Anniversaries: Naomi had 22 years on Sept. 26.
- VI: Minutes: Mary Grace proposed adding reports as attachments to the bottom of the minutes. Others pointed out that historically they were not included in this manner. The minutes were voted on and accepted as is, without attachments. No one was opposed; there were five abstentions.
- VII: Chairperson's Report:
 - a. Cindy thanked everyone for their support and said it was a dream to work with them. She asked for ideas on a new Co-Chair, Treasurer, and Recording Secretary. Whoever does have ideas should let the current Steering Committee know.
 - b. The Zoom account is up for renewal Oct. 23. Renewing for an entire year would cost \$150 (\$12.50/month) ; the monthly rate is otherwise \$15. Phil proposed keeping Zoom; Chris and Esther agreed, pointing out it allowed greater accessibility for those living far away. Phil made a motion to pay Zoom for an additional year. In response to concerns from Naomi, who wanted to hear the Treasurer's report first, the motion was tabled until later in the meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Daylene screen-shared a snapshot of the financial report (not yet reconciled). Total income was \$10,904.00 and total expenses were \$13,915.37, resulting in a net of -\$3011.37. Actual income will be \$12,175.29 once deposits from the two 50/50 raffles are made. There were \$3388.34 in in-kind expenses. Daylene believes we should pay these back in support of our 7th tradition. She also said we need to figure out the true costs of all items in the next budget, so in-kind payments will not be required. She suggested entertaining a motion to pay the in-kind expenses.

Our bank balance as of Oct. 6 was \$24,113.04, although not everything has cleared. A reconciled statement will be presented at the next meeting, along with recommendations for the budget and prudent reserve.

Esther asked if there were any unused inventory, such as literature, that MBAR could use in the future, perhaps in a fundraiser. Cindy said we can get that information from the literature chair. Carolyn agreed with Daylene that we need to come up with more realistic budget numbers in the future, and to pay back the in-kind expenses.

In response to a chat question, Daylene confirmed that we have no prudent reserve left over from the last MBAR. She said that after everything is reconciled here, we will have a prudent reserve of \$10,000, if not more. Naomi asked how much more in expenses is currently waiting to clear; Daylene replied there was not much. Naomi thanked Daylene for doing an amazing job.

Daylene suggested that we return to passing the basket at the big MBAR meetings, rather than leaving it in the rear. She said the 7th tradition collection this year was disappointingly small.

A motion was made and seconded to pay the in-kind contributions. Concern was expressed as to how they would be paid with no prudent reserve. In response, Daylene said that although there was no official prudent reserve yet, we will have about \$15,000 available for one, the exact amount to be decided later. The motion passed: 15 yes, 1 no, the rest abstaining.

The motion to renew Zoom for one year was made. It passed with 16 in favor, none opposed, 2 abstentions.

Committee Reports (Passing It On):

Survey: Phillip showed the results of his poll onscreen. He can also forward it to whoever wants a copy. There were 47 responses. 57% said they would attend MBAR in 2023, 17% said no, 21% maybe. Those wanting to wait until 2024 were 53% yes, 27% no, 10% maybe.

Almost 77% said they would not need an ASL interpreter (or knew anyone who would). 53% would like to buy a T-shirt; about 30% would not. The average cost respondents were willing to pay for a T-shirt was \$15, although based on a sample size of only 7.

Phillip went over the written survey responses in detail; Chris thought they would be helpful.

For the next MBAR, Chris said it was important to make sure all service positions are filled appropriately. She also suggested that current co-chairs consider assuming chair positions next time; experience is of the essence. Chris mentioned that the Young People's conference would take place Labor Day weekend 2023, and did not want MBAR to conflict with it.

Cindy asked for suggestions on when the next MBAR should be. Gina suggested 2024, to give more time for promotion and also prevent burnout. Sidney proposed not having it the same weekend as the Alateen event, as we did this year. She also suggested holding it 18 months from now.

Kathleen said that two years was not necessary for effective promotion. She pointed out that we can't really do outreach until registration packets are finalized. Her suggestion was using this year's game plan to get better set up for next year. Outreach would begin immediately after completion of the registration packets. Kathleen also said the Hospitality room could have used more organization. She proposed a suggested donation of \$5, saying the room could possibly pay for itself.

Micah suggested waiting two years as well. He said this would reduce stress, and give time to get the tax-exempt/nonprofit issue fully worked out.

Chris asked for the final decision to be made today. She said this would immediately give her an official email address, and help in the timely forming of committees. A motion was made to have the next MBAR in 2024. The vote was 14 in favor, 2 against, 2 abstaining.

Kathleen gave a minority opinion. She said an annual conference would become an event people can count on, and that a game plan is already in place. There would also be more consistency in costs. People and prices can change in two years.

Cindy dissented as well. She said there was a lot of enthusiasm right now, which could be harnessed. She also pointed out that the prudent reserve could be used up during off-years, mentioning costs for the website and P.O. Box.

Sidney suggested a compromise, having MBAR in May or June of 2024 rather than Labor Day weekend. This would give somewhat more time while still maintaining the momentum.

A second vote was taken on 2024; results were 14 for, 2 against, 2 abstaining (same as the previous vote). Thus MBAR will take place in 2024, with the month to be decided later.

The next meeting is scheduled for Nov. 12, second Saturday of the month as usual. Daylene proposed changing the meeting time from 11:00 to 10:00. She made a motion to do so; it passed with only 1 opposed.

Kathleen said she would like to be the Hospitality Chair in 2024.

VIII. Seventh Tradition:

IX. Next Steering Committee meeting is Wednesday, October 26, 2022.

X. Next Committee meeting is Saturday, November 12, 2022.

XI. Meeting adjourned at 12:19 pm with the Serenity Prayer

Respectfully submitted by Andy V.T., MBAR Recording Secretary