

# MBAR Committee Minutes

Zoom Meeting

Saturday, June 11, 2022

I. Call to Order:

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Time: 11:00 am

II: Serenity Prayer

III: Tradition 6 was read: "An AA Group ought never endorse, finance, or lend the AA name to any related facility or outside enterprise, lest problems of money, property and prestige divert us from our primary purpose." May spoke on this tradition, saying MBAR does not go to other enterprises and ask for contributions; we are self-supporting through our own.

IV: Introduction of the Steering Committee.

Total including all attendees: 29

V. Recent Anniversaries: None.

VI: Minutes: The minutes were voted on and approved with no changes. No one was opposed, but there were 6 abstentions.

VII: Chairperson's Report:

- a. Mary Grace and Phil C. volunteered to serve as next-month's co-hosts. Billy will share on Tradition 7 at the July meeting.
- b. Cindy noted there are still a few committees that need chairs: Activities, Merchandise, Young People. Also needed are H&I and GSR representatives to staff tables. May stated that Brady wants to have a table for Bridging the Gap.
- c. Registration prices go up at the end of July. Let everyone know!
- d. The bylaws still need to be approved, so we can be tax-exempt with the IRS. Henry and Mark volunteered to serve on a bylaw subcommittee with the treasurers. They will meet apart from the MBAR committee and complete the approval.

Treasurer's Report: Mona gave the report. Last month's balance was \$4360.42. We took in \$600 in checks and \$1693.96 from PayPal. A deposit of \$150 was made to Bethlehem Lutheran. The current balance is \$6504.38. We need 265 more registrations to meet our budget, and 515 to cover prudent reserve as well. Please mention this at meetings!

Daylene pointed out that we won't need the \$2000 budgeted for speaker housing. She proposed moving it to dance, BBQ, and T-shirts. She said that we seem to be on track with the 2019 budget estimate. Cindy asked Daylene if she had heard back from the sign language interpreter; she said that she had not. May proposed putting an interpreter remotely on a big screen to save money, but Cindy noted that we don't have a big screen. Kelly offered to search for other interpreters.

Naomi asked about the \$200 budgeted for BBQ. Daylene said it was for up-front costs to buy meat, which will later be reimbursed by the volunteers (\$5-10 each). The net BBQ cost should be close to zero.

Cindy said we can make 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition contributions for this meeting by PayPal, or send a check.

**Committee Reports:** Registration: 67 registrations so far. 51 are A.A., 12 Al-Anon, 4 both. \$615 has been raised in Helping Hand contributions (12.3 registrations at \$50/each). There were 27 bundles purchased, with a total of 30 people for breakfast, 38 for ice cream, and 37 for dinner. Cindy pointed out that 72 were registered at the end of May 2019, so this year is reasonably on track. The number of total registrants in 2019 was 335.

Social Media: No updates at this time, although pushing ahead with the letter for past attendees. There will be weekly posts during the next two months as the conference approaches. An updated MBAR flier has been completed.

Breakfast: Renee could not attend, but is looking for people to help.

Dinner: Not present.

Literature: May will purchase books from Monterey and Salinas central offices, as well as from Eric (in Spanish). She plans to buy about \$200 from each source. May is also looking for copies of Grapevine to give away, especially in Spanish. Volunteers are needed for the literature table.

Susan asked about signage for A.A./Al-Anon literature. Cindy replied that we will create our own signs on easels, since otherwise the Conference Center would require us to use an expensive vendor. We also can't hang banners on walls. Susan asked if anyone knew who could make cool signs.

Decorations: Hilda said there are no updates since the last meeting. She wanted to know if we could have a walk-through; Billy said he would set one up. Last time the only decorations were flowers, no signs or anything else. Gina said she would help with signs this year. Cindy suggested moving a few hundred dollars from the speaker housing budget to use on signs.

Hilda inquired if we can use balloons; Billy said he would check. May later said that balloons were not allowed.

Ice Cream Social: Kelly inquired who would supply the freezer. Cindy replied that we had borrowed the Conference Center's freezer in the past. Jim said he had asked a rodeo official about getting a freezer, nothing definite yet. He said he would like to tour the room with the volunteers as soon as possible. Billy said the Conference Center contract is vague about using their freezer.

T-Shirts: The committee held an offline meeting. Charly proposed buying a batch of 108 T-shirts, the smallest available quantity in 8 colors. Total cost would be around \$1700. Selling them at \$20 each, we would break even if we sold 90%. The shirts would be white with the 8-color logo. A motion was made to accept this proposal, or else have no T-shirts at all.

Daylene pointed out that there is no budget item for T-shirts. In response to a question, Charly said he didn't know if the whole cost would be required at once. Mona made another motion, to use some or all of the speaker lodging budget to cover T-shirt costs. The second motion was voted on first. The motion passed with 12 in favor, 6 opposed, and 4 abstentions.

The first motion (to do T-shirts) was then voted on. It passed with 12 in favor, 5 opposed, 2 abstentions. Daylene clarified that the total T-shirt amount would be moved from speaker housing.

Naomi then offered a minority opinion. She pointed out that our finances this year are not solid, and that it would be best to save money now to make sure we have an MBAR in two years. Eric said that Spanish A.A. had decided not to do T-shirts due to expense. Sidney mentioned that she would forgo T-shirts if it were her budget. A second motion was made in favor of buying T-shirts. This motion failed with 7 for and 11 against. Thus, the original motion to move funds from housing was now moot. Mary Grace thanked Charly for his hard work. Sidney suggested less costly memorabilia.

Outreach: Kathleen has friends in Santa Cruz and Hollister who are reaching out. Visitors to Fellowship Hall in Monterey, many from out of state, are also being given registration forms. Cindy pointed out that there will be an MBAR table at Unity Day. Susan volunteered to help with the table. Mary Grace said she mails registration forms to individuals, urging them to copy and share at their meetings.

Julie, an Al-Anon member from Santa Cruz, proposed selling recovery cards at MBAR. Sidney asked what they would be sold for, and how much would go to A.A./Al-Anon. Cindy said that past vendors had kept all their profits. Concern was expressed that selling merchandise would violate traditions. Naomi said vendors have sold their products in the past, and that this did not appear to violate any traditions. Sidney agreed, pointing out that Julie is an Al-

Anon member. She also proposed mentioning in advance that members could sell their wares at MBAR, for example by including a line on the registration form. Naomi replied that there may not be enough space for all potential vendors.

Mary Grace made a motion to allow Julie to sell her cards. The motion passed with 12 in favor, none opposed and no abstentions.

Spanish: Eric thanked May for her contribution to the Spanish literature. He asked if he could get Spanish signage for their meetings. He also requested to be included on the tour. Eric has been promoting MBAR at meetings in south Monterey County, and passing out registration forms there. All Spanish registrations so far appear to be cash. The Spanish speakers and topics are all set. Eric mentioned trying to get a Spanish-speaking registration person.

Speakers: Rocky has moved back to Los Angeles. Two other speakers (an A.A./Al-Anon pair) cannot attend due to family issues. They have been replaced by Terril and Robin, both Al-Anon. The updated information will be included on future registration forms.

Old-timers panel: Three speakers are coming from out of town. Mary Grace suggested paying for their registrations. Chris T. said she has one extra registration to donate. Daylene made a motion to pay for the remaining two. The motion passed with 9 in favor, none opposed, and 2 abstentions. The speakers will also be invited to the Friday night BBQ.

Shuttle service: The chair has a couple of people who are interested in helping.

Hospitality room: Jo is the chairperson. She encourages people to bring in whatever food they want to share. Contact her if you want to help. Sidney asked if Al-Anon members could assist, and Jo said anyone could.

Daylene asked who would be recording the meetings. Cindy said Richard, who usually records them, will not be there. His equipment will be available, however. Someone will be needed to operate it.

VIII. Seventh Tradition:

IX. Next Steering Committee meeting is Wednesday, June 29, 2022

X. Next Committee meeting is Saturday, July 9, 2022

XI. Meeting adjourned at 1:06 pm with the Serenity Prayer

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