

Western Mass Intergroup
May 12, 2008
Meeting Minutes

Present: Beth B., John C., Lyn C., Martin M., Sue S., Jeff A., Bill B., Carol Ch., Phyllis H., Rhea, Walter, two new reps from the Berkshires, *Austin & Joanne*

Jeff opened the meeting at 6:30 with the **Serenity Prayer**. We read the **Fifth Tradition** and the **Fifth Concept**.

Beth was not able to give the **Recording Secretary's** report –she had forgotten to do the minutes for the April 14 meeting. She promised to have both the April and May minutes for the June meeting.

JoAnn was out sick so there was no **Chair's** report. For the **Vice Chair's** report, Jeff talked about the administrative calendar he had drafted to be considered during the 5:30 August 11 meeting. He said he would email it out for suggestions and he suggested that we schedule a discussion of the WSBC questionnaire during a regular WMI meeting.

For the **Treasurer's** report, Rhea said that there were donations of \$967.15, expenses of \$905.72, and a new balance of \$2,703.81 as of 4/30/08. She explained that she'd given each WSBC delegate \$100 (for a total of \$300) as petty cash for tips, meals, etc. but that each delegate accounted for the petty cash they spent. The Treasurer's report was moved, seconded, and accepted. She also explained that she'd paid off the Yellow Pages account through the end of the contract, as we'd discussed.

For the **Corresponding Secretary's** report, Martin read a note from Pat at Westfield State College thanking Jeff, Beth, Marie and Sue for representing OA at the Westfield State Health Fair. There was also a thank you note from the Region 6 Intergroup Outreach (IGOR) committee thanking the WMI Region 6 representatives for attending the Spring Assembly.

Francine was not present so there was no **Archivist** report.

Roll call, introductions, and newcomer welcome were done.

Terry was not here to give a **Soft Literature** report. Carol came later with the soft literature and CDs. She reported that there were problems with some CDs playing in older cars and that there's a new pamphlet called "Is Food a Problem for You?"

Regarding **Hard Literature**, Beth reported she had lots of literature with her.

Sue reported as the temporary chair for **Professional Outreach**. She has been gathering information about putting an ad for OA on placemats. She will give a complete report later.

Lyn reported on the **Newsletter and Meeting Lists** for the committee (Beth, Lisa, and herself). She printed more copies of the Spring edition of Recovery Lines in purple to have for the WMI retreat. We

need articles and information about anniversaries. She mentioned that the Greenfield Saturday a.m. meeting at the YMCA is moving to the Franklin Medical Center. A WSBC delegate mentioned that WSO suggests not publishing information about "sick" meetings.

Jeff and Rhea, two of the WMI WSBC delegates, reported on their experiences at the **World Service Business Conference** in Albuquerque, NM, last week. Jeff presented his water bottle to the WMI rep who had come out from Pittsfield. He also presented a written summary of the conference. Jeff and Rhea reported that WSBC 2008 had 201 delegates and 30 staff. Information for Health Care Professionals was available for direct purchase. A decision was made to translate OA literature into Spanish. Jeff spoke about the WSBC strategic plan. They told about the skit: As the Stomach Turns. There are CDs of the workshops available. There is a new pamphlet and slogan to replace "It Takes Two." Rhea was on the Finance Committee and told us how they were working on finding a way for online and other meetings to collect a Seventh Tradition. WSO is trying to get groups to donate more. There are guidelines for new treasurers and Budget Guidelines for Service Bodies and other guidelines on the OA website.

We need a chair for the **Marathon** committee and a place to hold it. John was here but did not have a **12th Step Within** report. He said he'd have one next month.

Rhea reported that the **fundraising** at WSBC went very well and that we sold out of bookmarks but still had candles to sell for \$10. She said neither the candles nor the R6 mitts sold very well at WSBC. She said that the second collections for the Delegate Fund brought in \$950.78 from the groups in WMI.

Dan was not here to give a **Website Coordinator** report, but JoAnn was trying to get someone to work with Dan.

Carol reported for Terry as **Phone Liaison** that we had 42 calls: 10 calls were for help, 5 callers were given information, 6 callers would not leave a message, 3 calls were wrong numbers, 16 calls had no one on the line when answered, and 2 callers just hung up. The sources of information were: friend, returning member (2), doctor recommended, newspaper, and shoppers' guide.

Regarding the **PI Blitz**, Sue said that there was a billboard that was \$800 for 30 days so we should ask if there might be PI Blitz money available.

John did not have a report for the **Communications Umbrella Committee** but wondered if it was a defunct committee now. He said we should rethink it after the retreat and discuss it at the June meeting.

Old Business:

Jeff was reminded that he had said he'd prepare the December WMI meeting minutes.

Regarding the Genesis retreat, out of 54 possible beds, 35 or 36 are registered. The final cut off is 5/20 – call John or Lyn before 5/20 if interested. There are no scholarships and no single rooms available.

New Business:

We discussed the Bylaw Review process – we update them every two years but it was suggested that we change that to every three years.

It was requested that Hard and Soft literature submit cash reports for next month.

It was suggested that we set aside a meeting devoted to WSBC.

Someone asked what happened to the bus ads. Someone thought we had not renewed them.

It was suggested that we ask the PI chair to check into placing information about OA in Valu-Paks.

Jeff suggested that we reimburse WMI representatives for gas, maybe \$5.00 each.

It was suggested that intergroup members go out to meetings and make a pitch for intergroup.

It was suggested that we hold the Intergroup meeting in the Berkshires one month but we'd need a space – someone suggested that the Unitarian Church in Pittsfield would be available.

Jeff suggested that he write thank you notes for attending WMI.

It was suggested that WSBC delegates bring thank you notes and reports to meetings.

Group Concerns:

May 20 at 6:00 the Tuesday meeting will meet at Springfield Trinity for the summer.

June 6 from 7-9 is the 35th anniversary meeting at Mitteneague.

The Tuesday and Thursday meetings in Feeding Hills are suffering. They are paid through June but they need members to show up.

After a reminder about the Executive Committee meeting on August 11, 2008 at 5:3, the WMI meeting was adjourned.

6/6/08 Hard Literature Report

BOOK	Price	Number	Extension
AA 12 Steps & 12 Traditions	\$5.50	2	\$11.00
Abstinence	\$8.35	8	\$66.80
Alcoholics Anonymous (Big Book)	\$8.35	10	\$83.50
Beyond Our Wildest Dreams	\$11.00	10	\$110.00
For Today	\$8.35	10	\$83.50
Journal to Recovery	\$5.00	7	\$35.00
Lifeline Sampler	\$9.40	5	\$47.00
OA 12 & 12 Large Print	\$16.00	3	\$48.00
OA 12 & 12 Pocket Size	\$7.50	5	\$37.50
OA 12 Step Workbook	\$8.35	5	\$41.75
OA 12 Steps & 12 Traditions	\$11.00	14	\$154.00
Overeaters Anonymous 2nd Ed.	\$11.00	13	\$143.00
Recovery from Relapse	\$8.35	8	\$66.80
Seeking a Spiritual Path	\$8.35	17	\$141.95
Voices of Recovery	\$8.35	14	\$116.90

6/8/2008 book inventory total \$1,186.70
 6/8/2008 bank account balance \$521.18
 6//8/2008 cash on hand \$134.55

5/14/2008 total inventory \$1,842.43

Re: cash on hand
 will keep \$28.55 in change
 will deposit \$106 on Tuesday, 6/9/2008