**MWI Intergroup Zoom Meeting - August 17, 2024**

Attendees:

**- Blair P. (Chair):**

**- Sue (Treasurer):**

**- Rachel (Delegate to R6):**

**- Bob F.** (Liaison Region 6):

- **Kaitlyn** (Tuesday Newton BBSS):

**- Jean E**. (Corresponding Secretary):

**- Susan G.** (Thursday, Noon Meeting, Government Center):

**- Nancy GP** (Web/Social Media Coordinator):

- **Nate Otey:**

**- Abby C.** (Monday Meditation Meeting):

**- Alan F.** (Brookline Monday Men’s Meeting):

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Meeting Overview:

**1. Chair Transition:**

 - Blair P. announced resignation: Blair is transitioning to a one-year Trustee role at WSO, which requires relinquishing other service roles. Nate O. has been named Interim Chair until the end of 2024.

 - Bylaws Discussion: There was an extended discussion on bylaws regarding eligibility for board roles, specifically the ambiguity around the term "recent" service. Bob F. recommended revising the bylaws to provide more clarity and suggested using flexibility to fill key roles in the meantime.

**2. Volunteers and Board Vacancies:**

 - Board Roles and Vacancies:

 - Vice Chair: Rachel volunteered for the Vice Chair role, currently serving as Delegate to Region 6.

 - Recording Secretary: Nancy GP volunteered to serve as Recording Secretary in addition to her web and social media duties.

 - Website Coordinator: Kaitlyn T. expressed interest in the Website Coordinator position but asked for time to consider. She is currently assisting with social media efforts.

 - Website and Social Media Coordinator Continuity: Nancy GP emphasized that while she is a paid professional handling web and social media, Kaitlyn could be officially named as the Website Coordinator to maintain board representation.

**3. Bylaws Revisions and Guidance from Bob F.:**

 - Bylaws Ambiguity: Bob F noted the flexibility allowed by ambiguous language in the bylaws, which is sometimes beneficial but often problematic. He recommended addressing this in the bylaws revision and emphasized the importance of filling key positions.

 - Suggestions for Bylaws Update: Bob encouraged the group to clarify terms such as "recent service" and to use more definitive language (e.g., replacing "should" with "must") to avoid future confusion. He offered to help with the revision process.

**4. Service and Volunteerism:**

 **- Service in OA:** Bob F. and other members highlighted the importance of service in personal recovery and maintaining the intergroup’s functionality. Service beyond attending meetings (e.g., being a meeting treasurer, intergroup rep, or board member) was emphasized as crucial.

 **- Recruiting New Volunteers:** There were discussions about encouraging more members to take on service roles. Suggestions included easing new members into service roles and emphasizing the camaraderie and recovery benefits of service.

 **- Volunteering for Interim Roles:** Several interim positions were filled, with the understanding that nominations and elections for permanent positions would expire at the end of 2024

**Nate – Chair**

**Rachel S – Co-Chair**

**Nancy GP – Recording Secretary**

**Kaitlyn T – Web and Social Media Coordinator**

**5. Website and Social Media Updates:**

 **- Metrics Update:** Nancy GP provided an update on the website and social media performance. Engagement was growing, with more interactions and followers compared to previous months.

 **- OA Official Page Follows:** Kaitlyn noted that OA's official page had started following their Instagram, which she viewed as a positive sign of increased visibility.

**6. In-Person Meetings and Engagement:**

 **- Decline in In-Person Meetings**: There was concern about the ongoing decline of in-person meetings post-pandemic. Bob F. pointed out that this is a widespread issue across all 12-step programs, not just OA.

 **- Revitalizing In-Person Meetings:** Suggestions were made to start new in-person meetings where possible, and members were encouraged to take the initiative in organizing and promoting these meetings.

**7. Treasurer’s Report:**

 - Donation Update: Sue shared that after a few months of low donations, contributions had picked up again. She reminded the group to continue encouraging donations and linking it to what members used to spend on binge foods.

 **- Expense Report:** The group was informed about upcoming bills for insurance and email server hosting (Bluehost). Sue reminded Region 6 reps to keep receipts for reimbursement.

**8. World Service 2025 Convention:**

 **- Virtual Convention:** Bob and Blair confirmed that the 2025 World Service Business Conference (WSBC) will be virtual. This allows for wider participation without travel constraints. Details regarding the structure and workshops are being finalized and will be voted on soon.

 **- Motion Deadlines:** The deadline for submitting motions and bylaw amendments is December 1, 2024. The group needs to start preparing in September and October to ensure they meet this deadline.

**9. Region 6 Assembly and Hotel Information:**

 - Rachel’s Update: Rachel informed the group that the hotel for the upcoming Region 6 Assembly had sold out, but there was an overflow hotel available. She encouraged members to attend and bring their sponsors.

 - Waitlist for Hotel Rooms: Susan added that there is a waitlist for rooms at the main hotel in case of cancellations.

**10. Meeting Concerns and Issues:**

 - Monday Morning Meditation Meeting: Abby raised concerns about low attendance at the Monday Zoom meditation meeting. Nancy suggested brainstorming ways to spotlight the meeting without announcing it as “struggling,” which could inadvertently discourage attendance.

 - Spotlighting Meetings: The idea of spotlighting different meetings (like a “Meeting of the Month” feature) was discussed as a way to draw attention to meetings that need support.

**11. Google Drive Access and Distribution List:**

 - Jean E.’s Role: Jean asked for help navigating the Google Drive to maintain the distribution list, a task that falls under her Corresponding Secretary role. Nancy offered to set up a meeting to guide anyone needing a refresher on using the drive.

 - Announcement Process: Blair discussed the process for sending out announcements and maintaining an updated distribution list. It was agreed that Jean would take on this task with assistance as needed.

**12. Next Steps:**

 - Strategic Goals for 2024: The group tabled a discussion about adopting strategic goals for 2024, which will be revisited in a future meeting.

 - Encouraging Service Participation: Blair and others stressed the importance of attracting more members to attend intergroup meetings and get involved in service. Abby’s suggestion to advertise the Monday morning meditation meeting was part of this broader effort.

**13. Closing:**

 - The meeting ended with a closing prayer and a renewed focus on service and collaboration for the remainder of the year.