

Overeaters Anonymous Western Mass Intergroup Business Meeting Minutes May 16, 2021

Attendees: Beth B., Beth C., Gwen G., John C., Karen S., Mary I., Mary O., and Rob R.

Visitors: Carmen D., Lexie, and Louise.

Board Reports

1. Chair's Report— Rob asked whether the agenda is working and if changing it might help keep the meeting to an hour and still accomplish all items of business. Alternatively, should we extend the meeting time, or should we agree to continue all unaddressed business to be taken up at the next meeting? Other ideas? Discussion was deferred to the Old Business part of the meeting.
2. Vice Chair Report—No report
3. Recording Secretary's Report—The minutes of the April meeting were accepted.
4. Treasurer's Report—The Treasurer's Report was accepted.
5. Corresponding Secretary's Report—Karen asked for a volunteer to replace her in this position. She cannot lead the Website Committee and Workshop Working Group as well as perform the duties of Corresponding Secretary.
6. Region 6 Rep Reports & WSBC Delegate Reports— No report.

Committee Reports

1. Phone Service liaison – Gwen wants to monitor the costs for the next two months before recommending whether to change back to the Standard Plan with Crocker.
2. Workshop Working Group – Karen reported that she needs more help to be able to develop and hold a workshop every month. She stated that the work entails about 2 or 3 meeting per month of 2 hours duration each as well as attendance at the workshop. Mary I. volunteered to work with Karen.
3. Retreat – no report
4. Website – no report

Old Business –

1. Agenda discussion
 - a. People said that the agenda keeps discussion focused and on track. We discussed extending the meeting.
 - b. A motion was made and passed unanimously to change the length of the meeting to 75 minutes. The group agreed that if business is finished before the end of 75 minutes we will adjourn early. If more time is needed, a vote will be taken on whether to extend the length of that meeting.
2. PI/PO Committee continues to standvacant.
 - a. Beth B. encouraged all to attend the Intergroup Forum on 5/29 from 4 to 5pm. The subject will be "Service Burnout and Vacant Intergroup positions." She hoped this forum will generate ideas on filling vacant IG positions.
 - b. Karen S. asked if she could replenish the supply of brochures to those locations where holders have been placed. John C. has an inventory of brochures that might provide all Karen needs. If it doesn't, the group authorized an expenditure

- of \$50 while an application for reimbursement to the PI/PO Blitz effort is submitted.
- c. Karen S. and Carol Ch. are still contacting professionals' offices and sending stocked brochure holders to them.
 - d. Rob offered to propose 6 ideas for PI/PO projects to be discussed at the June IG meeting.
 - e. Mary I. proposed that each of us take a stocked brochure holder to one professional we know.
3. The question of whether we should keep a list of people willing and available to sponsor was discussed.
- a. Carmen D. suggested we establish a 12 Step Within Committee whose work is to do just that. She also suggested we ask at each meeting who would be available to sponsor.
 - b. Rob suggested we announce the opportunity of doing temporary service by walking a newcomer or newly returning member through the First 12 Days of OA.
 - c. Beth B. provided a link to a document produced when WSBC PI/PO committee delegates were challenged to come up with "one brave idea" for doing the work of PI/PO. The link is
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1qjAFHCoy607qa69a3UJouHotEnRt8C4J/view?usp=sharing>

New Business—

1. Rob suggested we ask group contacts if their groups offer the newcomer packet and/or the pamphlet entitled "Where Do I Start?" He asked Beth C. to initiate this effort. Karen S. offered to provide Beth with contact lists she has available.
2. Gwen G. volunteered to mail out the "Where Do I Start?" pamphlet to newcomers that request them.
3. Karen asked the group if we should include events outside of Western Mass in our weekly emails and the newsletter Recovery Lines. The group agreed we should.
4. We declare whether or not there is a quorum at the beginning of every meeting. This meeting was lightly attended. In determining whether we had a quorum, we discovered that the term "Voting Member" is not defined in the Bylaws. When we review the Bylaws, we should define the term.

Our next meeting will be on Sunday, June 13, 2021.

Respectfully Submitted,
Beth C