

## **Overeaters Anonymous Western Mass Intergroup Business Meeting Minutes May 15, 2022**

**Attendees:** Adwoa, Anne H., Celeste I., Ellen C., Gwen P., Julie B., Karen S., Mary I Rob R., Sean R., Sr. Susan T.

We did not reach a quorum, as only two WMI officers were in attendance.

### Board Reports

1. Chair's Report — Rob expressed disappointment at the lack of response to his recent emails. Only three people responded to the email asking people to vote on whether to meet on Mothers Day or May 15<sup>th</sup>. He asked about how he can better communicate with intergroup reps.  
In response to a newcomer's report that she tried to go to two meetings that don't exist, Rob compared the oa.org meeting list to ours. He asked WSO to remove seven suspended or cancelled meetings, and update three other meetings with Zoom info.
2. Vice Chair Report — absent
3. Recording Secretary's Report — absent.  
Lacking a quorum, we could not accept April's meeting. Karen S took notes and prepared minutes.
4. Treasurer's Report — The April/May report was presented. Lacking a quorum, we could not accept the report.
5. Corresponding Secretary's Report — vacant position
6. Region 6 Rep Report — no reports at this meeting
7. WSBC Delegate Reports — absent.

### Committee Reports

1. Phone Service liaison – absent
2. Retreat Committee – There are a few openings left. Two people left the committee. The Retreat Committee will meet again on Thursday May 19th at 6:30. Anyone interested in attending, the Zoom Meeting ID is 2517925996, password 1232021.
3. Marathon Committee — The 2022 WMI OA Marathon committee is looking for new ideas for the marathon. Sr. Susan is joining the committee. The next Marathon meeting is on Thursday June 2<sup>nd</sup> at 2:30pm the Zoom Meeting ID is 2517925996, password 1232021.

### Old and New Business

1. Sean Reported on OA Region 6 Google AdWords project.  
He reviewed the presentation given by Nancy P of Metro West Intergroup. Metro West Intergroup has been using Google Grants to bid for Google Ad words. As a result, Metro West's web page(s) appear high in Google search results for certain key words like overeating, bulimia, anorexia, etc. Metro West's analysis indicates that a large number of young women are clicking through to Metro West's web page(s).  
An Intergroup must have 501(c)3 status to participate in Google Grants for Non-Profits. Karen S will continue her research to determine whether we have 501(c)3 status.

Google imposes certain restrictions (can't sell your group's T-shirts using Google Grants, for instance) and has certain requirements (website must be robust, with working links, and be well-maintained; we'll need conversion rules to route traffic to certain pages; there must be a certain number or percentage of click-throughs; and minimum time that people must stay on the website).

Metro West would like to join forces with other Intergroups so we won't be competing with each other and bidding for the same words, driving up the per-word price and diminishing the value of the Google Grant each Intergroup receives.

Region 6 has a Request for Proposal (RFP) for a web professional to administer a Google Ad Words project at Region level.

Question was brought up – is this attraction or promotion? We're not in breach of Tradition to let the public know about the plan of recovery offered by OA.

Further, it has been decided at the trustee level that it is not a break of tradition to accept funding from Google via Google Grants.

Julie asked if there was any data on the website traffic since the billboards went up.

2. Much discussion around Adwa's very tentative suggestion for a once-a-month Intergroup 12-Step meeting, as a way for people in various groups to see the strength of the Intergroup and to share fellowship, experience, strength, and hope. This wouldn't be a business meeting; it would be a meeting sharing the message of recovery. There seemed to be a lot of interest.

A number of ideas emerged. There were some suggestions from the group as to how to reach groups to inform them better as to what intergroup is all about. One suggestion was to have a monthly step, tradition or concept meeting for 40 minutes then the business meeting.

Another was to have special intergroup hosted meetings once a month on the steps, traditions and/or concepts.

Another was having several members of the intergroup join in on weekly meetings in western MA, to show that the intergroup reps and officers are OA fellows, too.

Several people agreed to meet to brainstorm this. Adwa's schedule is full until mid-June, and she'll convene a meeting after that.

3. Do we want to offer a member survey similar to this one from Cape Cod Intergroup?  
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2022CCISurvey>  
Cape Cod Intergroup's results are posted here: <https://tinyurl.com/2p8n6d35>  
Or this one, from CT? <https://tinyurl.com/vk4st279>

Rob spoke about Don C's Intergroup Revival Training, with about ~8 hours of Zoom over two days! The resource document (attached) is huge! It's an inspiring and overwhelming training. Wouldn't it be great if we could curate all the amazing ideas, arriving at 5-10 brilliant ideas from which we could choose?

Among these ideas, the Member Survey is prominent (Intergroup Renewal document, page 5-7).

4. Intergroup Inventory – is it time to take a look at how we're doing and have another intergroup inventory? Our last inventory was in 2014.

5. Establishing a good contact list for our meetings, so that WMI can keep groups informed.  
We'd like to establish a good contact list for all WMI meetings, so that we can convey info to a person who will then share it with their meeting.  
Rob, Karen and Ellen are going to create an email list of addresses for all of the groups.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:20 pm.

Our next meeting will be held on Sunday, June 12th, 2022, at 2pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Karen S