

## **Overeaters Anonymous Western Mass Intergroup Business Meeting Minutes February 12, 2023**

Meeting opened at 6pm by Chairperson Ellen with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer.

Tradition 2 and Concept 2 were read by Karen S. Comments were provided by Karen S. & John C., as to the meaning & value in both their OA lives.

Roll Call read by Co Chair Carol.

**Voting Attendees:** Anne H., Carol Ch., Deb T., Ellen C., Joette S., John C., Julie B., Karen S., Maureen M., Patty A., & Rob R.

### **Board Reports**

- Ellen wants to remind everyone that they can email her with any agenda items any time up to the mtg's actual time. She emails the agenda out a week prior to the meeting looking for agenda items.
- Ellen also wanted it noted that the Intergroup meeting in April (Easter Sunday) and May (Mother's Day) may need to be discussed regarding members availability for the meeting.
- Carol reported that after sending out the survey, she only received four (4) replies. She will send out the survey again.
- Julie reported that she will send out a report on the "non-profit status" for WMI.
- Recording Secretary – January minutes were accepted as written.
- Treasurer's Report- January report was accepted as written. Joette also reported that she is still waiting for a final bill from Nexa (phone service).
- Corresponding Secretary: No report.

### **Standing Committee Reports**

- **PIPO:** Karen reported on the new "tear offs" on the OA World Service information sheets which would be sent to the groups for posting in public places. She and Joette are still finalizing them.
- **PI using the transit buses:** Karen reported on the information she gathered from the bus companies. She shared the mockup from the printer on to what the design would look like. She presented the financial data and logistics of how many buses, what garages would be used to have the most viewing in the area. Motion was made and accepted to have the buses for 3 garages in the area. The banners will also have notation in Spanish. They will be used for a 4-month trial period. We would then reevaluate for any continued use of this mode to bring OA's message to the public.
- **Phone Service:** Patty reported there have been 2 successful calls with the new phone service.
- **Website-** Rob reviewed the report currently available for website visits, specific page visits, etc. He reported that he has looked at Google Analytics to see whether we could get more robust data on visitors to our website, in order to utilize Google Analytics to obtain visitor's ages, genders, locations, etc, we'd have to invite websites to accept "cookies". To do that, we'd need to display a message asking visitors to accept "cookies" and we'd have to put a "Cookie Policy" on the website. This message might say something like this: "We use cookies to analyze our traffic. By clicking "Accept All", you consent to our use of cookies". We'd have an "accept" and "reject" button. A user's experience on the website would be no different if they accepted cookies than if they rejected them. After a brief discussion the group consensus was to make no changes and live with the data we are getting now.

- **Marathon-** Karen reported nothing happening as of yet, however still planned for September and a flyer will be coming out shortly.
- **Retreat-** Karen reported that they have found a leader from Ontario. She reported that \$500 was previously allocated from Intergroup for the Retreat account. Also, that Genesis has increased the charge to \$253 for a single room and \$232 for a double for the weekend.
- **WSBC Delegate-** position still vacant
- **Archives** – No report.
- **Region 6 Reps-** Meeting is in April and Karen is attending. We are allowed 3 representatives for our group. Motion made and accepted for Sue S as our Archivist to also be attending as another voting representative for this meeting.

#### **New Business:**

- **Updated Meeting Lists-** Anne H and Sean still calling and updating with current members listed to verify the status and accuracy of the group's information.
- **Second Post Office Key:** Anne H, volunteered to hold the 2<sup>nd</sup> Post Office Box key. Thank you Anne.
- **Scholarships for June Retreat:** Voted to allot funds for three (3) partial scholarships for local Massachusetts attendees totaling \$450.00 from WMI.

#### **Group Concerns/Brainstorming**

- Regarding a concern shared at the last Intergroup meeting in reference to low attendance at meetings, John shared that on the OA website there are four or five articles pertaining to this very topic with strategies to increase group attendance.
- Carol is stepping down as Co-Chair of WMI, however will still remain a group representative from Belchertown for our meeting.

**Meeting adjourned at 7:03 pm with recitation of the Responsibility Pledge.**

**Next meeting is on Sunday, March 12, 2023, at 6pm.**

Respectfully submitted,

Deb T.  
Recording Secretary