

JUNE 2023 MINUTES

Overeaters Anonymous Western Mass Intergroup Business Meeting Minutes
June 11, 2023

Meeting opened at 6 p.m. by Chairperson Ellen C. with a full moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer.

Roll Call was called by Julie B.

Tradition 6 was read and discussed by Karen S. with personal insights shared.

Concept 6 was read by Ellen C. with sharing by Julie B. on her view of solidarity.

Attendees: Julie B., Carol Ch., Ellen C., Anne H., Maureen M., Marie M., Rob R., Karen S., Joette S., and Susan T.

Board Reports:

- Ellen stated a new business item has been added to the agenda regarding bus signs. Karen will share later in the meeting.
- Julie will report on the non-profit process later in the meeting.
- Recording Secretary: Voted to accept the minutes for May with one change in the last line from June 10 to June 11.
- Treasurer's Report: Voted to accept the report for May. • Corresponding Treasurer: No report.

Standing Committee Reports:

- PIPO: The position is still vacant, but Karen reported Anna B. from either Canaan or Great Barrington is sending out OA flyers to physicians. Karen asked if WMI should fund the process. Karen will get more information about the flyers and report the findings at our next meeting. Maureen is interested in helping and Karen will forward her name to Anna.
- Phone Service: No report
- Website: Rob sent a report of the statistics for May. The page views of the website are consistent. The top two views are the meeting lists and the meetings for newcomers.
- Marathon: The Marathon will be held on September 9, 2023 at the Bethany Assembly of God. A topic for the marathon has been suggested, "Pumping Up Your Program." A "Save the Date" notice will be sent out soon. There has been discussion that instead of calling it a Marathon, they may call it a one-day retreat and hold it two times per year.

- Retreat: The retreat was a success, but there were some problems. The cost went up significantly. The leader had to be paid by the Retreat Committee which had not been the case in the past. The cost of the retreat had to be raised to cover this extra expense so the cost was \$340. The road leading to the Genesis house was being paved and attendees had to find an alternative route. The food was expensive and just ordinary. The employees are new and untrained and so there were discrepancies in costs for last minute attendees. There was a surplus of \$190 in the scholarship donations that were received late and have been earmarked for next year. There were no volunteers for a Chair or Co- Chair for next year. There were volunteers for the secretary and logistics positions. A date was not booked for next year. Karen asked if we should reach out to the groups to ask for volunteers to fill these positions. It was suggested maybe Martha could send an email. A final accounting of the retreat will be prepared by Karen and sent out to representatives.

- WSBC Delegate: position still vacant

- Archives: Anne H. reported that Sue has found old OA commercials. She needs help in transferring them to a digital format so they can be preserved. Also, some repairs need to be made and Sue is looking for help. Carol reported that there was scanning equipment purchased but was not sure who had it. Maureen said she would reach out.

- Region 6 Fall Assembly: The fall assembly is being held on September 23, 2023, at the Hilton Garden Inn, Albany, NY. Registration begins in August.

- Region 6: Karen reported that Region 6 wanted to know how we stand on the 5013C. There are people on the Web and Publications committee that will help us walk through the process. Do we want the help? Julie will reach out.

- Region 6 Fundraiser: The convention is in October. Carol reported that in mid-May she received information about a virtual raffle. The flyers about the virtual raffle will be posted on our website, however, it is too early to post them now. Labor Day would be a better time. It was reported Region 6 has already posted the information on their website. The virtual raffle tickets are \$10 and first prize is a free registration with free hotel accommodations.

Old Business:

Tax Exemption Status: Julie B. reported on the non-profit process. There is a 2-1/4-page form that must be completed. There is a fee of \$275 to set up the account. It takes one month to find out if we have been approved. We must file an e-postcard 990n annually. Julie needs the date WMI formed, the employee ID number, and the tax year-end date. Our officers need to be listed on the IRS form that is filed, with their first and last names. Our Bylaws need to state that we will only do the activities listed on our application, that our officers are not

paid, and if WMI ceases to exist that any money remaining will not be used for non-tax-exempt purposes. Julie will welcome any help offered to read the bylaws and interpret if the regulations needed by the IRS are covered. Rob noted that any changes to the WMI Bylaws may have to be approved by the Trustee. Julie stated the non-profit status will boost website participation. Julie will share any more findings at the next meeting.

Intergroup Survey: Rob had sample surveys ready to show WMI representatives. It was decided to wait until September's meeting to look at them.

Victoria Straus: Joette and Carol sent a letter to Victoria asking if she thought her salary should be raised because she was working so many hours. Rob reported that she was happy with her current compensation. It was voted to keep the salary at \$600 per year, paid in January and June. We had not paid her yet for June as we were waiting to hear from her. The check will be sent out this week. We will revisit this in the future.

New Business: Karen reported the bus sign contract will expire July 1, 2023. Renewal for three months will cost \$1,453, July, August, and September. Karen will get more information as to the price for the entire year. It was voted that we will continue the contract for nine more months. Karen will check to see if we can get the yearly rate.

Region 6 Fall Assembly

Group Concerns, Brainstorming, Agenda Items for August:

Bus Signs - Karen

Tax Exempt Status - Julie

Intergroup Survey - Rob

Retreat Officers

Funding Flyers Being Sent to Physicians - Karen

Meeting adjourned at 7:19 pm with recitation of the Responsibility Pledge. Next meeting is on Sunday, August 13, 2023, at 6pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Joette S

Substitute Recording Secretary