# SUMMARY

## **Motions Passed:**

1. Motion: The Website Administrator wants to open fundraiser to cover annual website fee of $193.75 which is due in August.
   1. Motionwasseconded*.* Motionpassedunanimously*.*
2. Motion: To reconvene the Script Committee to assist in shortening the script.
   1. Motion was seconded. Motionpassedunanimously*.*

## **Motions Failed:**

1. MOTION: To drop sharing time down to three minutes.
   1. Motion was seconded. Vote: Yes: 2 No: 9 Abstain: 4. Motion failed.

## **Motions Tabled:**

1. None.

# Meeting opened with Serenity Prayer at 1:10 pm Eastern

## Readings:

1. [Read 12 Traditions](https://marijuana-anonymous.org/how-it-works/the-twelve-traditions/)
2. [Reconciliation Prayer](https://ma-phone.org/prayers)

## Roll Call:

1. 1 Host and 16 people in attendance.
2. *Note: there was a temporary Group Conscience Chairperson chairing the meeting this week*.

## Last Business Meeting Minutes

1. Minutes from Last Business Meeting were read.
   1. Motion to accept the minutes as read.
   2. Motion was seconded.
   3. Approved by acclimation.

# Subcommittee and Service Reports:

## Web Administrator and Internet Subcommittee (WA & AWA)

1. **Website Updates:**
   1. Updated the Women in Recovery meeting listing.
   2. Removed the disclaimer about the meeting finder not working from the MA application page because it is now working.
   3. Updated the Chairperson list.
2. **Web Administrator Updates:**
   1. They have been nothing that the last few months that their term will expire in September. The WA and AWA have had discussions about it and at this point they would like to go ahead and post for a new WA and they are both willing to retain their current positions until someone else steps up. If anyone is interested the current WA would like to thoroughly vet anyone would like to step up and serve because as most of you know the website is where we have all of our scripts, readings, etc. It is very important that we have someone who can be trusted with all of that.
   2. The WA put a motion forth for our fundraiser. They will discuss it when we get to that point.
   3. The internet subcommittee did not meet.

## Script Committee (Inactive)

## Chairperson Coordinator (CC)

1. Meeting Vacancies/Openings:
   1. The CC suggests that the history of this meeting we run it in the open line position. People diligently mute and unmute as necessary. It feels a little awkward doing it this way. But that is the history I recall over the past five or six months.
   2. Nothing much to report other than as usual there are some open meetings:
   3. Sunday 10am chairperson is graciously willing to continue to host that meeting through the last Sunday of June.
   4. Sunday 12 Noon – a member is still hosting every other Sunday.
   5. A member is done with their commitment that is why the CC was hosting as a substitute.
   6. Working to have a surprise guest host every Monday evening for Milestone Mondays. And the surprise guest host for tomorrow evening is still a surprise to me, because I’m still working on it.
   7. Two other meetings that are open Thursday 10pm Young People’s Meeting is open in sort of a strange circumstance. A member may come back and do it for a handful of weeks. In the middle part of summer. It should just be considered open. We did have a substitute yesterday.
   8. Friday 10am is open. A member has graciously continued to host until someone steps up.
   9. Still encouraging people to start new meetings if some other time frame fits their schedule or their families’ schedule.
   10. There may be some confusion as to whether someone is stepping up to take on the position of Chairperson Coordinator. There was not an official agenda item entered. Not sure procedurally how that works. Or if that other person is still wanting to step up and do that.
   11. Discussion
       1. Another member is alternating with the current Friday 10am chairperson now. It was discussed Friday after the meeting. The member hopes that this is still in effect.
       2. The GCCP would like to follow the CC’s recommendation to take the meeting out of Q&A mode. Kindly mute your phone and unmute when it is your turn to speak. Thank you.
       3. A member echoed what was said about the Friday 10am meeting. This member is going to contact the CC to inform them that they are on board to chair the meeting every other week. Starting this Friday 6/18. This member can host the meeting every other week. The member will need to contact the CC offline and get the host code and confirm and wants to freshen up on what they need to do.
       4. The CC responded, “That’s fine.”
       5. A member expressed their appreciation to the CC for doing a great job.

## Group Conscience Chairperson Report (GCC)

1. Was not asked for or given. (Perhaps because there was a substitute this week.)

## “A New Leaf” Liaison (NLNLL) Report

1. It’s been very quiet.
2. If you have a recovery story or a recovery birthday you would like to share please email [ANL@ma-phone.org](mailto:ANL@ma-phone.org).
3. If you are making the announcement about the email, it doesn’t matter if it is uppercase or lowercase. The email address is not case sensitive.

## Treasury (7th Tradition) Subcommittee - (Inactive)

1. Inactive. There is a member who heads this committee. **We need to reactivate the subcommittee, and this will be in the forthcoming motion**. There is not technically a committee, at this point, but there is a member willing to collect the funds we need.

## Podcast Administrator and Speaker Tapes Subcommittee (PCA/STS)

1. A member that is on that committee as a recorder.
2. They have over 80 recordings of speakers (or speaker tapes as they are commonly called).
   1. The member had the console pulled up and had to mute two people as he was attempting to give his report.
   2. The member noted that the people muted might have to dial back in after they’ve been muted. The member asked them to mute themselves locally or press \*6 to mute.
3. There are three people on the PCA/STS committee. The member named off all of the subcommittee members.
4. They have so far made it available on podcasts. They have over 80 recordings thanks to the subcommittee.
5. They have room for more assistance if anyone would like to do that.
6. The editing, which is part of the recording, is open for a service position. If you are interested in that please let the member know so we can get you a copy of the recording so it can be edited. It takes a free piece of software and some editing ability to do this position. If you have that talent that position is open.
   1. Had to pause to mute another member who dialed back in unmuted.
7. The GCC asked if there were any questions to the PCA/STS subcommittee.

## District Service Subcommittee

1. First, thanked the substitute chairperson for volunteering to chair the meeting.
2. In terms of the district service subcommittee there hasn’t been any meetings about this.
3. In terms of an update, we did just have the MA World Services Conference happen the last weekend of May. And because we are not a district, we did not have a delegate representing MAWPM or the WIR or any other group on the phone line.
4. The member did attend but there was far too much to share here. The member will not be giving a report as though they were a delegate reporting back to the group. The member will, however, give us a little snapshot.
   1. Since we did say there was so much going on that they will have to **reconvene the conference and they are going to meet again by the end of July** to pick up from the business they didn’t get a chance to get to. This is probably, I think, never happened. MA is growing very, very rapidly. This conference introduced three new districts to MA World. The key things to note: **There was an update made to the 12 Questions. Those** **12 Questions have been updated on our website MA-Phone.org and the main website, marijuana-anonymous.org**. They are not up on the MA Application. (The member knows that our fellowship relies heavily on the app and the app is sorely outdated. They really haven’t been updating the application very much at all.) So, check out those questions, when you have a chance, and try and use those (the updated versions on the websites listed above) in meetings.
   2. The **finance committee is going to be holding a workshop in July**, I believe, to help groups figure out how to do virtual 7th Tradition. The member **strongly suggests that we have a member of our 7th Tradition subcommittee attend**. They will give us a really great opportunity to see how we can use the 7th Tradition to be more than just an annual fundraiser, should we decide to become a district.
   3. The other important thing to note is that there is a proposition, or a motion on the floor right now, to change all of the words “God” to “Higher Power”. The way that this works is that normally conference is the one who makes decisions. When it comes to changing steps and traditions, it is above and beyond the conferences’ power. It actually has to be sent out to every single group in MA and every single group in MA has a vote. We as MAWPM have a vote and we are going to be getting that soon. What that means is that step 3 would read, “Made a decision to our will and our lives over to the care of a Higher Power as we understood a Higher Power.” Tradition 2 would be, “For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority a loving Higher Power…” and so on.
   4. There was a lot of confusion at the conference thinking that the phone groups is one large group. And the member has had to share with them that MAWPM has their own group conscience and their own group. The Women in Recovery is their own group with their own group conscience and their own recovery phone line, as is the men’s. **So there should be three opportunities to vote**.
   5. Lots of really great steps happening at the World Service Level. Anyone and everyone are welcome to join any World Service Committee that they are interested in. If you are interested in public information, in hospitals and institutions and outreach (and that is basically communication within MA Meetings) there are a lot of opportunity to be of service. Especially now that this is virtual. There is a great opportunity to serve at another level.
   6. Discussion: The district service committee is that the group that is exploring the possibility of making the MAWPM group its own district? And would it be three districts or a district with three groups?
   7. Yes, this is the subcommittee exploring whether MAWPM wants to become a district. A district would then include the MAWPM Group, the WIR line (if they wanted to join this district, they could) and same with the Men’s Group. They would still be three individual groups belonging to one district.

# Old Business

1. None.

# New Business

1. **Motion: The Website Administrator wants to open fundraiser to cover annual website fee of $193.75 which is due in August.**
   1. Discuss what will be done with excess funds. Last year, GC voted to send it to FreeConferenceCall to be fully self-supporting. Do we want to consider donating to MAWS?
   2. The member proposing the motion spoke to the motion.
   3. Discussion: To be clear for everyone. That would involve making an addition to the script that would ask for funds to be donated to a Venmo account or a PayPal account.
   4. Last year a member was kind enough to use their PayPal and Venmo accounts to collect the funds and provide an accounting back to the Treasury subcommittee. There was accountability. That is how we handled it last year. There was a little piece in the script of how we were raising funds. Last year we collected in excess of what we needed to cover our expenses and the GC made a decision about what to do with that excess.
   5. Do we have an account we can use for this at this time? Since we are going to a vote now.
   6. The member was just submitting the motion right now to activate the fundraiser. If there is a second for that, great. Then we can have some discussion about it. If needed the member can make an amended motion.
   7. **Motion was seconded.**
   8. Temporary GCCP asked if there was any other discussion?
   9. There was clarification by a member on how to ask for a vote. I think you can just ask if there are any objections to the vote. And if there are no objections then there is no need to do an individual count.
   10. The Temporary GCCP then asked if there were any objections to this motion? To open up the fundraiser for our annual website fee.
   11. **Vote passes unanimously.**
2. **Motion: A member would like to propose the following two agenda items to discuss and vote on at the upcoming business meeting**:
   1. **Shortening the shares to 3 minutes (from 4)**
   2. **Shortening (by 6 to 10 mins) the script to create more time for sharing.**
   3. *Discussion: The motion was immediately opened for discussion without asking the member (who was present and willing to inform the group about the proposed motion) to speak to their proposed motion.*
   4. **Motion to reconvene the Script Committee was interjected.** 
      1. A member said they think the script is too long but that four minutes to speak is okay. That is their view as a person who chairs a lot of meetings. Getting people to talk at meetings is a real task, a lot of the time. But I do think the script is too long.
      2. Another member said they think that the script is too long.
      3. Another member said they think the script is too long.
      4. Another member said they think the script is too long also.
      5. A member joined the discussion to say that it sounds like we have a script committee gathered. That needs to edit it.
      6. The Temporary GCC asked: Are there any people who think that the script is too short? No one spoke up so the Chairperson said, “I don’t think so.”
      7. A member said we would just make a motion to send it to the script committee to be reviewed because there is quite a lot involved. Having been on the script committee in a business meeting, would take far too long. The front end, which is the opening part of our meeting, which takes a good ten minutes, we did try to shorten it in the last GC by creating an optional part so that if there are no newcomers on the line, we skip reading a couple of things. But our announcements continue to be long and continue to be added to. Some of them are important. I think that I will go ahead and make a motion.
3. **Motion: that we have the script committee reconvene to review the script. To review the script and see about shortening it.**
   1. **Motion was seconded. Vote passed unanimously.**
   2. Temporary GCC asked if there is anyone on the Script Subcommittee?
   3. A member offered to volunteer for the subcommittee. (28:23)
   4. Temporary GCC asked if there were any other people present who would like to volunteer to be on the Script Subcommittee?
   5. Another member volunteered to be on of the Script Subcommittee.
   6. A member stepped up to say that they had candidates for some of the items that could be eliminated because they are old. The member said that they started to log on 10 minutes after the meeting starts because they don’t want to listen to the script. (29:21)
   7. A member said they also log on 20 minutes after the meeting begins because the member finds the script is still being read. A member reiterated that they still wanted to volunteer for the Script Committee.
   8. The Temporary GCC joined the discussion: I do follow the options and I avoid excessive talking when I can because I do prefer to have more people share, than not. (29:57)
   9. A member had a question as to what is done next to get the committee reconvened? The member did not have the phone numbers of the two other members who volunteered to be on the Script Committee. Does anyone have any idea as to the process to get the committee reconvened? Thanks.
   10. The Temporary GCC said we had a consensus to form the Script Committee and a member needs phone numbers. The Temporary GCC volunteered to send all contact phone numbers to each member on the Script Committee.
   11. The Temp. GCC asked for any comments or suggestions at this time.
   12. A member of the Script Committee said that they would hand out their phone number. A member said they were happy to coordinate a schedule. They acknowledged that there are two coasts (time zones) involved in this subcommittee. Then the member gave out their phone number (rec. time 31:07) The member wanted to know if anyone has any ideas about this you are welcome to contact them and give the member their ideas about the script.
   13. Another member of the Script Committee gave their phone number out as well (rec. time 31:29)
   14. The third member of the Script Committee gave out their phone number as well. (rec. time 31:40) and said that they would reach out to the other members as well.
   15. The CC mentioned that he hadn’t thought about this much, until this very meeting. Two things that do happen regularly, that lengthen the introduction to the meeting, I hesitate to call out individual hosts. Sometimes it seems like they are new to hosting a meeting and maybe it’s even a reflection that they didn’t do as well as they could have to get the chairpersons ready to host a meeting. Sometimes he noticed that, and I don’t know how we would maybe, rewrite a little bit of the script, before we ask newcomers to identify themselves. And sometimes, and you can’t really blame the newcomer, because it is a new experience for them, and they don’t know, they haven’t been to the meetings dozens and dozens of times to get a sense of procedurally, how we do it. But sometimes hosts, and I think that it’s just that they are being gracious or feel like they are being gracious, of course, but they sometimes let newcomers almost, practically break into a share, as they are introducing themselves. I know that it is awkward to interrupt somebody and say, just to clarify, we really are just introducing new comers right now and there will be time for sharing later. I can’t quite remember exactly, there is some wording in the script, that sort of, would, sort of, give those hosts cover.
   16. The CC mentioned that something that happens regularly, not super regularly, anyways. There should maybe be a line when we do the reading of the twelves. Occasionally a host will let three or four people read the twelves. The group conscience is that it is two readings and then stop it. I think the vast majority of hosts are familiar with that procedural…Every once in a while someone will you know, offer up a third reading or whatever. I think, there again, and in their minds eye, I think so of the hosts are feeling like they are being gracious to the group to have an extra reading. When in fact, the clock is relentless, it is always ticking. Those are just two quick little thoughts that, sometimes, those occurrences catch my ears sometimes when I’m just listening in as a participant. That’s also why when I host, at the end of the second reading, I do like to say, “By Group Conscience we have two readings at the beginning of the meeting, so lets move on and we will get going with the meeting.” Thank you for that.
   17. The Temporary GCC asked if there were any other comments or shares on this topic? Is there any other new business? Anything that we need to discuss that people have on their minds
   18. **A member,** **who submitted the Motion** **about shortening the shares, spoke up again and said he would like to revisit that topic.** As it was mentioned a little bit ago. There, and I have mixed feelings about it, because I’ve been on the meetings and I’ve been a host, I hear in the meetings when people are, kinda like pulling teeth to get people to jump into the queue. But there are other meetings, and I guess it just needs to be sensed or set at the time of the meeting, there are times I feel like, because number one, the script is so long and number two, by the time we do get to sharing and there are plenty of people in the queue, a four minute share, there is like time for maybe 4 or 5 people, if that, to share at 4 minutes. Once the script is done and we wrap up with all of the announcements at the end of the meeting, there is 20 minutes in the front and 10 in the back and it’s like maybe, and that’s if everything is going “smoothly” that there is like 4 or 5 shares at meetings. At these larger meetings, and again with the MA growing, and whatnot, and hopefully it continues to stay that way, even though maybe COVID abates, I do want to **make a motion that we drop the sharing down to 3 minutes**. Or some kind of an assessment, if there is 20-30 people on the line, to make the call to drop it to 3 minutes on an individual basis.
   19. (There was no call for a second to the motion.) Another member stepped in to say they were not going to second the motion, to say, that they think should just try to shorten the script first to see if that fixes the problem, and if not they could revisit it. They chair two meetings a week and I spend half an hour by myself talking a lot of the time. The idea of actually cutting it down to three minutes without anyone wanting to share, is like a nightmare.
   20. The Temporary GCC stated that there was a motion on the floor, and wanted to know if anyone would second the motion?
   21. **MOTION: Do drop sharing time down to three minutes. A member seconded the motion**. **Vote: Yes: 2 No: 9 Abstain: 4. Motion failed.**
   22. Discussion:
   23. Temporary GCC opened the floor up for discussion.
   24. Temporary GCC then said, I would speak against the motion at this time to see what would happen when the script was adjusted. But I’m not against people. I would be in favor of, if there was a large meeting, because we’ve had some large meetings with 35 people in it, where maybe the share could be shortened to three minutes. But at this time I would be against the motion to and would wait for the script shortening.
   25. A member said they were inclined to think the same thing. To wait and see what happens with the script. I will say that it ebbs and flows. There are days and weeks where not everyone can get in and get a share in and there are other times where it’s like pulling teeth to get anyone to get into the queue and share. The hosts that use the app (Free Conference Call HD) to chair a meeting can see if there is anyone in the queue. So we know whether or not we need to shorten shares, so that might be an option as well. It would be to the discretion of the chair to shorten it for three minutes so that everyone who is left in the queue will still have an opportunity to share. However, we do have four to five meetings a day so if you don’t have an opportunity to share at the meeting (1) There is always an opportunity to share after the meeting (2) There is always several other meetings during the day that you can attend. (3) If we did shorten the shares to three minutes, we also have the option of opening for second shares. So if that is an issue of concern (Oh no, you shorten the shares there is going to be even more silence, well there is always that option to open up to second shares.)
   26. Temporary GCCP reiterated that we are open to discussion on shortening the shares motion.
   27. A member took a deep breath and said that he might get into a little bit of murky waters here so, it’s just some thoughts, and there has been some discussion in fellowship about this. So, you know, look if the shares had always been three minutes, then that would feel like normal. The shares have always been four minutes so that seems so normal. I don’t know that there is really any particular reason that the shares should be longer or shorter. Could we have a two and a half minute share, a five minute share? You know I think whatever we become accustomed to, is what we become accustomed to. Yes, there are, you know, thirty-something meetings during the week and that’s not necessarily the answer to everybody. Because, people have busy schedules with their work life and their family life. And this and that, this and that. So here is where things get a little murky. So, I do know that there is some growing frustration amongst the MA Phone Line community of what people do or don’t share. And it seems like people are falling on one side or the other, or people that have a strong opinion, seem to fall on one side or the other of the line. What the line is: you know, however you want to phrase it, sharing responsibly, keeping your share centered on the subject of marijuana addiction, blah-blah-blah-blah. I don’t , I don’t necessarily, personally, because it’s principles before personalities, I don’t really, I truthfully don’t have a super strong opinion one way or the other, on a personal level. You know in Group Conscience, we do discuss things and, and I was starting more closely to the script, recently. Bear with me, um, I will find it here, well anyways, it’s the wording of the script, and some people fall on the side of the line, you know, kind, just like free wheeling things, share about whatever is on your mind, they are like, whatever moves your spirit. And some people are no, we should really keep our shares focused more on the topic of recovery of marijuana addiction. And umm, uh, okay so here is one part of the, of the script, and it’s in the preamble it says, “Marijuana is a fellowship of people who share our experience, strength and hope with each and together we may solve our common problem.” I’m kinda going off course here a little bit and I apologize for that. “And before we begin sharing…sorry where is it here…okay what happens at an MA meeting? People discuss their problems with marijuana and what they did to recover and what life is like now and we have found that as a group we can achieve for ourselves results, which as individuals, we would have failed repeatedly. You know, it could be argued the suggestion, could be in that couple of lines there, that you know, people share about a lot of different things in their personal life and yes, I do on a personal level, I understand that if it feels like it is uh, you know an issue in your recover and your marijuana addiction, and it feels, uh, pertinent to your share. Um, where is the next little line that sort of speaks to that? Okay, it is now time for sharing we ask that you stay focused on the topic of recovery from marijuana addiction and share your own experience, strength and hope by using “I” statements. The point of this long rambling mention is that there seems to be a growing frustration with shares that just, you know, fill up the whole four minutes and the time ticks away and people don’t get a chance to share. People have actually expressed this to me in text and phone calls. And I’m just voicing some of my observations and other peoples opinions so sorry if I rambled on a little too long.
   28. Temp. GCC are there any other comments about this motion?
   29. A member said, I know that when I share it isn’t too much about a specific topic. My share will always have to do with whatever problem I’m sharing about whether it be personal or family or work or whatever, it’s always related to how it will make me pick up. So, sometimes that word, you know, keeping to the topic, for me the topic is always whether my shares are going to make me pick up or not. That might be considered, not being staying on the topic but for me it is. I don’t know if that makes sense or not, but.
   30. Temp GCC if you have a comment or if you are speaking for the motion or if you are speaking against the motion, would you please jump in and give us, give us your opinion here.
   31. Was the member who just spoke speaking for or against the motion to shorten the share time?
   32. The member - at first it was to shorten the share time but after hearing everybody’s opinion I think, I think the script might fix that problem, if you shorten the script.
   33. Temp GCC - Is there any other discussion on this motion? Should we take it to a vote? I’m assuming that we are going to take it to a vote.
   34. A member joined the discussion – okay, I guess point would be against the motion. I feel like in the script it says, and I’ve heard it repeated, but there is time after the meeting for additional shares. When they see there are a bunch of people in the queue. But I feel like kind of addresses that issue, of are there any burning desires? And, in my experience, I very rarely see people take advantage of that. I would be against that motion.
   35. Any opposed to the motion? Vote taken.
   36. **Vote: Yes: 2 No: 9 Abstain: 4. Motion failed.**
   37. Asked to state the motion again. The motion is to reduce the time of the shares from 4 minutes to three minutes.

## Motion to Adjourn. Seconded.

## Meeting Ended at 1:55 pm Eastern Time

## Serenity Prayer