**Marijuana Anonymous World Phone Meetings Business Meeting Minutes**

**October 11, 2020 1:10pm EDT**

Serenity Prayer

Read [12 Traditions](https://ma-phone.org/meeting-readings)

[Reconciliation Prayer](https://ma-phone.org/prayers#1fbe0845-8005-48e7-8b16-8153852b8322)

Roll Call: #14

[Minutes from Last Business Meeting](https://ma-phone.org/mawpm-meeting-minutes#679a3c8d-0704-4c80-910e-36de1d64de75) were approved as read.

**Summary from last meeting:**

* **MOTIONS PASSED**:
* **MOTIONS FAILED:** Motion from Internet Subcommittee #8:

Motion: Make these changes to meeting structure and script:

Add 5 minutes to the sharing portion of the meeting.

Abbreviate announcements to: “Chairperson(s) are needed on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ [list days with vacancies]. Stick around after the meeting to hear announcements about upcoming events, recovery and service opportunities, which will be read during fellowship. See our website [ma-phone.org](http://ma-phone.org/) for a complete listing of announcements.”

Announcements will be moved to after closing Serenity Prayer on script.

* **MOTIONS TABLED:** Revisit vote from September GC to extend Saturday Night Live Speaker Meeting to 90 minutes. Have discussion and consider possibly only extending to 75 minutes.
* **NO MOTION (DISCUSSION ONLY):** Concern about crosstalk and criticism of others during meetings

**Subcommittee and Service Reports:**

Web Administrator and Internet Subcommittee:

- Changes to the website. Updated the announcements to remove the 2 pm Speaker Tape from the script and MAWPM announcements. Updated the Chairperson Coordinator name and contact information. We have not met since our last meeting. We could still use help with Search Engine Optimization if there are any fellows who might have experience with it.

Script Subcommittee:

- No one spoke up for this subcommittee.

Chairperson Coordinator:

- No meetings open right now. Gently trying to encourage people to start some new meetings. Need to come to the GC meeting before beginning.

"A New Leaf" Liaison:

- Current liaison said that no one has taken over. Nothing to report. She would love someone to step up and take over as life is really busy for her.

Treasury (7th Tradition) Subcommittee:

- Treasury Subcommittee has not needed to meet. Our purpose was to do a fundraiser to pay for 2 years’ worth of website stuff. That was all done. We had a little remainder and that was decided in GC to send that to Free Conference Call for our telephone costs.

Speaker Tapes Subcommittee:

- Have uploaded several more speaker shares. Our subcommittee has not met since our last GC.

District Service Subcommittee:

- The District Service Subcommittee was formed to see if MAWPM would be interested in becoming a District. The subcommittee met several times to discuss the pros and cons of becoming a District but there’s still quite a bit to talk about and thrash out. We need to find a Chairperson to lead the group so we can set a date and time for a meeting. The website says that the subcommittee will reconvene in the fall. The hope is to keep the conversation going and present to GC. There isn’t a huge rush. The decision will need to be made early next year. Plan to continue to announce it at meetings that a Chairperson is needed. #9 agrees to be the contact person if we hear of someone who is interested in chairing (613-866-9430).

Old Business:

1. Tabled from September 2020 GC: Motion from Internet Subcommittee #8:

Motion: Make these changes to meeting structure and script:

Add 5 minutes to the sharing portion of the meeting.

Abbreviate announcements to: “Chairperson(s) are needed on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ [list days with vacancies]. Stick around after the meeting to hear announcements about upcoming events, recovery and service opportunities, which will be read during fellowship. See our website [ma-phone.org](http://ma-phone.org/) for a complete listing of announcements.”

Announcements will be moved to after closing Serenity Prayer on script.

Seconded by #1

Discussion: #1, these are good suggestions; #5 agreed. #4 asked for the motion to be reread. Thinks it’s a good idea but it takes away from the opportunity for folks to hear how they can be of service. #14 thinks that the sharing should be cut off with 10 min. remaining. #9 commented the most shares we get in the meetings is 8 with 25 folks on the line. More often than not there are people left in the queue. It may buy us one or two shares. Announcements are very important, but the fact is many people drop off before the announcements are read. Would need to make sure the chair would stay until the announcements were read even if it’s past the hour time frame. #8 commented that chairs might announce there is xx number of minutes left for sharing so the meeting will stay on track. #5 thought that announcements should be read during the meeting not after the meeting so to speak. #1 commented that if we just shared about chairpersons are needed on such and such meeting would be enough. #10 agrees with meetings being completely inside the hour and stop sharing at 50 min. and that’s to show courtesy to the chairperson who is already staying 10 min afterwards for fellowship. Service is one of the solid three legs of the triangle.

Motion failed - 10 No, 3 Yes, 1 Abstain

New Business:

1. Concern about crosstalk and criticism of others during meetings. (no motion)

- #10 sent this forward. A couple of weeks ago there were a few instances that were public and direct crosstalk and criticism, once to a newcomer sharing on topic about detox solutions and twice to a chairperson, once about not shutting off at the straight 50-min mark and the other about not cutting off that newcomer for saying some detox solutions and it created a bit of “what do I do in this situation” and someone contacted me. #10 was on both meetings. #10 wanted to bring it to GC that our script says let there be no criticism or crosstalk. #10 thinks it’s important because it harms a newcomer. Curious what others think and if there should be corrective action.

#13 Dealt with some fallout from that with a newcomer and it forced them to dig deeper in the Traditions, specifically Tradition 3. Newcomers need to be loved and we need to welcome them. #1 has heard it on the meetings how welcoming and kind this fellowship is. #1 errs on the side of trying to not crosstalk and feel more forgiving if the shares might go over the allotted time. #2 was on the meeting where the chair was going way over time and a fellow mentioned that as per our GC, we end our meeting at :50. #2 didn’t interpret this as a criticism of the chair; it sounded like a gentle reminder of the time limits for sharing. If #10 had been the chair, they would have appreciated the reminder to end the sharing at 10 min. before the hour. When #2 has heard crosstalk at a meeting, they address the Chairperson Coordinator about it and not address it during the meeting because they don’t want to crosstalk either. When they were Chairperson Coordinator, they would bring the concern up with the chair of that specific meeting. #14 tries to keep in mind is how would this sound to someone who may be at their first meeting. Seems very unprofessional to interrupt and correct the chairperson. The appropriate time is after the meeting or at a later date. When a third voice pops up out of nowhere it can be off-putting to a newcomer to hear. #4 talked about using sub-conferences to cater to folks at different places in their recovery. For example, newcomers could go into a subconference with other newcomers and fellows who want to join in so to take the load off the bigger group. #8 pulled up the MAWPM Guidelines that are on the internet and read from them regarding crosstalk. Just go at it with gentleness and kindness to all. #9 said that newcomers often ask questions during their share which is crosstalk. Chairs can ask them to stick around after the meeting to respond to their questions. #7 Newcomers are very sensitive. Was on that meeting that was referenced, and it was a very awkward situation. Hopes that the newcomer comes back. It would feel like I wasn’t welcome if I got cut off or criticized. #10 loves the loving comments of a Business Meeting. Appreciates all the thoughts and ideas that we just discussed.

2. Revisit vote from September GC to extend Saturday Night Live Speaker Meeting to 90 minutes. Have discussion and consider possibly only extending to 75 minutes.

#10 Changing the meeting from 60 min to 90 min is a big jump. We have 30 meetings per week. The purpose of a Speaker Meeting is to listen to a person’s story and then get in line to thank them.

GC Decision - Will table again until November GC so current SNL Chairpersons can be on hand for the discussion.

Motion to Adjourn

Serenity Prayer