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

**Sunday, February 14, 2021**

**Summary**:

• **MOTIONS PASSED**:

1. Replace the section in the script “The keystrokes to manage the call” with the information submitted in the document for the cheat sheet. Motion was seconded.
2. Start an open topic meeting on Tuesday at 10 pm and the volunteering member will chair the meeting for 6 months. Motion was seconded.
3. Set up an email address for the New Leaf Newsletter liaison. Motion was seconded.

• **MOTIONS FAILED**:

1. Start a meeting on Monday at 10 pm ET with the name of Dual Concerns in Marijuana Anonymous. The motion was seconded. Motion Failed: 3 Yay, 8 Nay, 3 Abstentions

• **MOTIONS TABLED**: None

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Meeting opened with Serenity Prayer at 1:10 pm Eastern

[Read 12 Traditions](https://marijuana-anonymous.org/how-it-works/the-twelve-traditions/)

[Reconciliation Prayer](https://ma-phone.org/prayers)

Roll Call: 17 people in attendance

Minutes from Last Business Meeting were read. Motion to approve as read. Seconded. Approved by acclimation.

**Subcommittee and Service Reports:**

• **Web Administrator and Internet Subcommittee**

Website changes this past month – updated the Traditions 7 page as approved at our January Business Meeting, updated the Subcommittee Meetings as none are currently meeting or sending updates, clarified the Business Meeting announcement for submitting an agenda item, updated Chairperson Coordinator contact info and chairperson list, and for four weeks there was an announcement about cancelling and restarting the monthly MAWS 7th Tradition information so they get proper acknowledgment to being from MAWPM members.

Emailed the MA Treasurer to let them the know that the information on the 7th Tradition had been resolved and he was satisfied with that.

Looking for a new fellow to take over the Web Administrator. WA is 7 months away from the end of her 2nd service term. Want to start getting the word out there. The Meeting Finder page on the marijuana-anonymous.org site has been improved. It now defaults to current and upcoming meetings in the day which makes it easy to find - online, phone and in-person meetings.

The current Assistant Web Administrator is serving her term but isn’t interested in filling the full Web Administrator position.

The Internet Subcommittee did not meet.

• **Script Committee**

Made a list of the phone commands (keystrokes to manage the call) that we are currently using. These will be put at the beginning of the script to help the chairpersons. Discussion about the need to include these commands since the current script has commands in it.

1. Motion – Replace the section in the script “The keystrokes to manage the call” with the information submitted in the document for the cheat sheet. Motion was seconded. Motion passed, 15 Yay.

• **Chairperson Coordinator**

Reported that he gets a lot of feedback, the vast majority is positive. Reminded the group that the only requirement to chair a meeting is to have 60 days of continuous sobriety. Chairperson Coordinator (CC) reached out to the chairs to ensure that they understand the phone commands for a meeting. This involves several long phone calls. There are many differences among chairs about how a meeting is run despite the effort to have uniformity. CC emphasizes that the meeting doesn’t belong to the chair, it belongs to the participants and MA. “It’s like herding cats.”

Brought up the part in the script which says, “We do not engage in crosstalk which is defined as giving someone advice…” Discussion followed about having a chairperson buddy up with an experienced chair (shadow hosting). It’s casually out there already. \*04 command can be used when someone is sharing inappropriately.

Other comments - Chairperson Guidelines were developed with care and decided on by our group. They need to be read and followed. Frequent crosstalk after peoples’ shares by the chair. Ask ourselves, are we carrying the message? Love and tolerance is our code. We want people to feel comfortable being on the phonelines. Chairpersons need to be responsible for finding a substitute chair when they’re unavailable. This should not be the CC’s job.

A good idea to get to know how to use the phone commands is to phone into the MAWPM line using the host code during a quiet time and practice. Having a buddy or a couple of buddies to help you practice will even make the session more beneficial.

• **“A New Leaf” Liaison Report**

Reported that he spoke to Mariska from MAWS who is the New Leaf Newsletter publisher or editor. ANL will be asking people to write their stories, submit them to the newsletter and tell him their sobriety dates which will also appear in the newsletter. These dates will be printed the month following the actual sobriety date. All submissions need to be emailed to ANL@ma-phone.org.

• **Treasury (7th Tradition) Subcommittee (inactive)**

• **Podcast Administrator and Speaker Tapes Subcommittee**

The Podcast Administrator is active thanks to a fellow’s timely recording and editing of our SNL speakers. The SNL chairpersons are sending him the speaker information and approvals to publish the shares. There are a couple weeks of delay from when the share happens to when it’s uploaded on the MA Speaker Tapes Podcast. Also, PA’s putting stuff out from our archives every Wednesday.Thinking about possibly publishing other relevant recorded media.

• **District Service Subcommittee**

We talked about maybe joining the Independent Region that is working to become a District this year. The paperwork has been submitted and that vote will take place in May at the MAWS Conference. Last GC we didn’t take a vote on whether we wanted to become a part of this Independent Region. We’ll need to make a decision if MAWPM wants to join and then pick a representative. A new piece of information – although MAWPM missed the deadline to submit the necessary paperwork to become our own District, a motion may be brought up on the floor at the MAWS Conference Business Meeting in May. The District Service Subcommittee Chair will get with the other members and set a date for the next meeting and let the Wed Admin know so other folks from the fellowship may join.

**Old Business**

1. Open Business Meeting Secretary Position
   * The Business Meeting Chair (BMC) asked for ideas on how to get this position filled, since the position has been open for 4 months.
   * A member volunteered to try it for a month. BMC will meet with the volunteer to train and guide the volunteer.
   * A member suggested that those who lead “open topic” meetings should lead some meetings with the topic of “service” to generate some more interest in being in service and highlighting that there are more ways to serve, including these once-per-month service opportunities, like the Business Meeting Secretary position.
2. New Meeting Proposal on Monday at 10 pm ET
   * A member reported the following:
     1. This would be an “open topic” meeting with the topic of “dual diagnosis” being one of the weekly topics.
     2. Regarding the name of the meeting - There has been a lot of discussion on what to call people who have dual diagnosis because there are some syntactical issues with the word “diagnosis.” “Double Trouble in MA” was suggested.
   * A motion was made to start a meeting on Monday at 10 pm ET with the topic of Double Trouble in Marijuana Anonymous. The motion was seconded.
     1. Discussion: A member wanted to come up with a different name, because of the word “trouble” being perceived as negative. Suggestions were made. “Dual Concerns” was suggested. The motion was amended as follows:
     2. The motion was amended as follows: To start a meeting on Monday at 10 pm ET with the name of Dual Concerns in Marijuana Anonymous. The amended motion was seconded.
        1. Discussion: A member raised the concern of singleness of purpose. Another member compared this meeting to the Cross-Addiction meeting, seeing a precedent and no problem with singleness of purpose. Another member raised the issue of the topic being too medically technical. Another member shared that they think the topic is out of the scope of MA. Another member that someone might feel excluded if they did not have a dual diagnosis. Another member discussed the impact on traditions 6 and 8 and a possible disclaimer that we could use. The desire to have a meeting at this time slot was restated. Another member pointed out that, in addition to the cross-addiction meeting, we have an LGBTQ meeting which welcomes people who do not belong to that community. Another member said that people need a “safe space” to talk about dual concerns.
        2. Amended Motion (Vote): To start a meeting on Monday at 10 pm ET with the name of Dual Concerns in Marijuana Anonymous. The amended motion was seconded. Motion Failed: 3 Yay, 8 Nay, 3 Abstentions

**New Business**

1. Propose a new open topic meeting on Tuesdays at 10 pm ET

* A member gave background and volunteered to run the meeting for 6 months.
* A motion was made to start an open topic meeting on Tuesday at 10 pm.
  + 1. Discussion regarding the volunteer.
    2. The motion was amended, as follows: To start an open topic meeting on Tuesday at 10 pm and the volunteering member will chair the meeting for 6 months. The motion was seconded. No discussion. There was no opposition to the motion. Motion Passed by Acclimation.
* The meeting will be posted on the website and the information will be forwarded to MAWS.

2. Propose a “plug” for the Carry the Message Newsletter (no one spoke on this)

3. Motion to set up an email address for the New Leaf Newsletter Liaison.

* ANL Liaison gave some background and suggested the email address of [ANL@ma-phone.org](mailto:ANL@ma-phone.org).
* A motion was made to set up an email address for the New Leaf Newsletter Liaison. The motion was seconded. No discussion. No opposition. Motion passed by acclimation.

**Motion to Adjourn**

**Serenity Prayer**

**Meeting Ended at 3:01pm Eastern Time**