**Marijuana Anonymous World Phone Meetings**

**Group Conscience Meeting Minutes:**

**Sunday, September 11, 2022**

**Summary:**

* **MOTIONS PASSED**:
* For MAWPM to apply for recognition by MA World Services as an official district of Marijuana Anonymous.
* That we have a minimum requirement of 9 months of clean and sober time for a speaker on the SNL meeting.
* To approve Laura as Web Administrator. This would leave the position of Assistant Web Administrator open.
* To eliminate the position of New Leaf Publication Liaison Coordinator and its associated email address due to lack of activity.
* **MOTIONS FAILED**: None
* **MOTIONS TABLED**:
* To ﻿Create a service position for H&I for our MAWPM group, using guidelines from MA world services <https://marijuana-anonymous.org/wp-content/uploads/HI-Handbook-as-of-October-2020.pdf>
* Motion to change the sobriety requirement for chairing meetings from 60 to 30 days.
* **DISCUSSED BUT NO MOTION**: none

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**Opened with Serenity Prayer at 1:17 PM Eastern**

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

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

**Roll Call: 21**

**Summary of motions from** [**Last Group Conscience Meeting**](https://ma-phone.org/mawpm-meeting-minutes#679a3c8d-0704-4c80-910e-36de1d64de75)**’s Minutes were read**

**- Motion to approve minutes as read; seconded. No objections. Approved by unanimous consent.**

**Subcommittee / Service Reports**

* Web Administrator & Internet Subcommittee
* Not filled and no interest
* Assistant web admin has submitted to become lead thus assistant web admin may be vacant
* Script announcements have been updated
* All website changes have been updated
* Chairperson Coordinator
* Sunday 10am, Monday 10am and noon, Tuesday, and Wednesday at 8pm, (we have a sub for Wednesday at 8pm through September. Also Saturday and Sunday at
* “A New Leaf” Liaison
* No activity and suggested that position be eliminated.
* Podcast Administrator & Speaker Tapes Subcommittee
* One was uploaded last week, and we have two more to edit and upload
* Saturday Night Live Speaker Coordinator
* Needs support, maybe make mentions during other meetings inside and outside of the phone meetings. i.e., zoom and in person
* Everyone’s doing great with recording
* Host is doing great
* Safety Support Team
* There was a conversation in the last few days, and it is in process.
* Console Admin
* Welcome to Morgan as assistant
* Podcast recording delayed due, but everything is going great
* Password has been updated
* Treasure Report
* No report.

**Old Business**

* None

**New Business**

1. **Motion** for MAWPM to apply for recognition by MA World Services as an official district of Marijuana Anonymous. Seconded. Discussed.

***BENEFITS OF BECOMING A DISTRICT***

1. MAWPM has already been functioning with a service structure in alignment with MA Traditions and the Service Manual.

2. 2 Delegates and an alternate would be elected and represent the Group Conscience of MAWPM at the Annual MA World Services Conference with official votes.

3. Delegates can report information from the Conference back to our membership at our monthly Group Conscience meeting about the various activities of MA World Services (policies, goals, service opportunities and resources).

4. Allow MAWPM to become better connected with MA World Services Trustees and other District counterparts. This, in turn, strengthens the carried message.

a. Other districts share how they have been handling problems, successes, group activities, and resources they have used in ther groups.

b. Learn  about best practices and activities of MA World Services Trustees and  Subcommittees, including service opportunities

***IMPORTANT CONSIDERATIONS ABOUT BECOMING A DISTRICT***

5. The District will need to do a 7th Tradition Fundraiser to collect contributions to send the delegates to the Conference (may involve paying for travel in the future which could be several thousand dollars). The 2022 Conference was virtual and cost around $100 per person. Although the 2023 World Services Conference will be virtual, future Conferences could be in person and may cost several thousand dollars for travel to send our delegates.

6. There has been a lack of service in our group as evidenced by important service positions being filled by individuals longer than the defined service term or remaining unfilled. Finding individuals to serve as Delegates could be challenging.

7. If the Women in Recovery group and Dudes in Recovery group elect to join the District, there would need to be an additional District Group Conscience meeting to include all MA Phone Meetings.

* We will need fundraising to send member to the 2024 MAWS convention.
* Concern that it will require further service positions and we currently have a lot of unfilled service positions.
* Monetarily we wouldn’t have to worry until 2024, if it is in person. But we would have to raise money for 2 members to register, travel, lodging and food.
* For 2023 we would have to raise money to register 2 delegates, its confirmed that it will be held on zoon.
* We are growing slowly and steadily. Service ebbs and flows.
* We won’t get a vote for changing God to Higher Power if we are not a district. Correction, we will have a vote for this no matter what.
* If we vote to become a district that should be first on the MAWS agenda so that we can have voted throughout the agenda
* Voted. 14 yes and 1 no. **Passed by majority vote.**
* Next, we need to fill out the application on the MAWS website to become a district.
* Noted that there was a technical difficulty on the phone line during the vote that kept everyone from voting.

2. **Motion** to set SNL speaker minimum requirement of 9 months clean and the ability to carry the message of recovery working the program of Marijuana Anonymous.

* Is this clean and sober or just free from marijuana?
* **Amended Motion** to set SNL speaker minimum requirement of 9 months clean and sober and the ability to carry the message of recovery working the program of Marijuana Anonymous.
* Seconded.
* What does carry the message mean?
* It is someone who has done the work.
* Does that mean someone who has been through the steps?
* Suggested that it means that someone has been through the steps.
* Suggested to amend motion SNL speaker minimum requirement of 9 months clean and sober and is actively working the 12 step program of recovery of Marijuana Anonymous
* Suggested we drop the “carry the message phrase” and leave it up to the speaker seeker to use their discretion
* Member read the 12th step as guidance on carrying the message
* Suggested that we strike the ambiguous wording about carrying the message
* Recommendation that the speaker coordinator service position is updated to reflect step 12. Suggested a separate motion be made for another GC.
* Member shared that our 3rd tradition conflicts with the Motion we passed about requirements for SNL speaker. Concern that we are leaving members out and keeping them from being of service.
* Member discussed the issue of cross addiction with that requirement.
* Member shared that they have experienced an exception to be of service without complete sobriety.
* Tradition 4 says groups have a right to make their own mistakes and perhaps in the future we can revisit the motion.
* **Amended Motion** that we have a minimum requirement of 9 months of clean and sober time for a speaker on the SNL meeting.
* Seconded
* Voted, 14 yes, 1 no. **Passed by majority vote.**

3. **Motion** to ﻿Create a service position for H&I for our MAWPM group, using guidelines from MA world services <https://marijuana-anonymous.org/wp-content/uploads/HI-Handbook-as-of-October-2020.pdf>

* **Tabled until next month.**

4. **Motion** to approve Laura as Web Administrator (if no other nominees have stepped forward). This would leave the position of Assistant Web Administrator open.

* Seconded. No discussion. No Objection. **Passed by unanimous consent.**

5. **Motion** to eliminate the position of New Leaf Publication Liaison Coordinator and its associated email address due to lack of activity.

* Seconded. Discussed.
* The last time anyone set an email to the email was in July 2021.
* We have a limited amount of email accounts so freeing this email account up will be useful when we become a district.
* No objections. **Passed by unanimous consent**.

6. (late submission) Motion to change the sobriety requirement for chairing meetings from 60 to 30 days.

* **Tabled until next month.**

**Announcements**

- These service positions are open: Group Conscience Chairperson, (Assistant) Web Administrator, and Secretary.

- The MA Convention is October 7-9 in San Diego, CA. The virtual portion will not happen as it is not financially feasible. Registration closes September 23. For more information or to register, visit [mawsconvention.org](http://mawsconvention.org). 

- We need speakers for our SNL speaker meeting, please reach out to Jesse if you are interested.

- Notes from the July MA World Services Board Meeting

o An ad hoc committee continues working on the issue of creating a new office to better serve members on the European continent. To get involved, email [Europe@marijuana-anonymous.org](mailto:Europe@marijuana-anonymous.org).

o Another ad hoc committee is addressing the Fellowship's need for recovery chips. To get involved, email [Chips@marijuana-anonymous.org](mailto:Chips@marijuana-anonymous.org)

o Hospitals & Institutions has formed a new meeting called "A Happier, Saner Life," supporting members who have experienced problems with mental and behavioral health. It occurs on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays each month and can be found on the MA website

o H&I is also planning a public panel, featuring two MA members and one H&I professional. To get involved, email [HI@marijuana-anonymous.org](mailto:HI@marijuana-anonymous.org).

o The Literature Committee has updated the deadline of November 1, 2022 for submitting feedback on the daily reader, Living Every Day With Hope. [Review the book's content here.](https://marijuana-anonymous.us5.list-manage.com/track/click?u=fa2c7ca429430a975309ee601&id=e6f08a18dc&e=a7a4e715fa)

o The Outreach Committee is seeking volunteers to help attend new meetings. If this interests you, email [Outreach@marijuana-anonymous.org](mailto:Outreach@marijuana-anonymous.org).

o The Public Information Committee will be coordinating groups to call therapists and rehab facilities nearest Districts. To get involved, email [PI@marijuana-anonymous.org](mailto:PI@marijuana-anonymous.org).

**Discussion**

- Member shared that our 3rd tradition conflicts with the Motion we passed about requirements for SNL speaker. Concern that we are leaving members out and keeping them from being of service.

- Member discussed the issue of cross addiction with that requirement.

- Member shared that they have experienced an exception to be of service without complete sobriety.

- Tradition 4 says groups have a right to make their own mistakes and perhaps in the future we can revisit the motion.

**Motion to Adjourn.** Seconded. No discussion. No objection. **Passed by unanimous consent**.

**Meeting closed with Serenity Prayer at 2:36pm Eastern.**