**WIR Group Conscious**

**Business Meeting Minutes**

**Wednesday, December 7, 2022 at 8 PM**

**Motions passed:**

**-motion made for WIR to request to MAWPM to join their district, seconded, no opposition, motion is approved by consensus**

**-motion made, seconded, no opposition, approved by consensus, new co-chair person coordinators**

**Motions failed: none**

**Discussed but no motion: ongoing service discussion, chairperson coordinator-review next month**

1. Change title or description of WIR meeting to something that is overtly welcoming to transwomen (e.g., women and female identifying folks, all those identifying as women)

-table this for future discussion/review, proposed that the name WIR not be changed- but rather the description of the meeting attendees be changed to be inclusive of women and those who identify as women, discussed the phone password process-how that works

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**Call to order 8:02**

**Open with the Serenity Prayer**

**Reading of the 12 traditions**

**Roll call-7**

**Reading and Approval of Last Meeting's Minutes (summary of motions only)**

- motion to approve, motion made, seconded, no opposition, minutes approved by consensus

**Service and Subcommittee Reports**

**Chairperson Coordinator**:

-open chair people positions: Mon 3PM Eastern, Thurs 3PM Eastern, and 3rd Sunday of the month at 7PM Eastern

- to be certain all backup and chair people are on the new WhatsApp chair people group

**Console Administrator**: nothing new to report

**Old Business**

1. Discuss joining MAWPM in becoming a Phone Meeting district at next year's MAWS Conference in May-

-MAWPM GC passed the motion to apply to become a district

-application gets sent in Jan/Feb to be on the agenda, will likely be approved

-this means WIR would fall under the MAWPM district, we would become part of the MAWPM district meeting, WIR would send a delegate, WIR would still have their own GC

MAWPM has applied to become a district already. If WIR does not become part of a phone meeting district we might have limited access to the ma-phone.org

**-motion made for WIR to request to MAWPM to join their district, seconded, no opposition, motion is approved by consensus**

**-Laura will submit as an agenda item to MAWPM**

2. Chairperson coordinator/service needs: how can we motivate/inspire members to be of service and participate in the community

-discussion of the ongoing struggle to get people to be of service

-discussed chairperson coordinator being a shared role-Carol will reach out to a few fellows to review and be chairperson coordinator with her

-discussed service focused meeting topic-December speaker to speak on step 12, discuss service experience, review service opportunities/roles

1. Discuss how to carry out voting on changing God to HP in the Steps and Traditions short form-district 12 at conference made a motion to change the word God to HP, each meeting will be given a unique ballot and will be asked to submit a vote if they are in agreement to remove the word God from our Steps and Traditions and replace with HP. We have 6 months to vote on this. We will have 8 ballots coming, we can conduct them separately/independently or we can do one vote at one time.

-MAWPM assigned a contact person and they have produced unique ballots for each meeting and they will then be emailed to the point of contact.

-option given for each WIR member to send one email with their vote

-marijuana-anonymous/vote (to read more)

-decision by 5.23

-motion made, second, no opposition, motion is approved by consensus: create a sub-committee on God/HP vote to investigate and put together a plan to bring this vote to the group, and the committee will meet until the business is accomplished/vote completed in May 2023

**New notes 12/7/22**

**Our proposal on how to conduct the membership wide vote**

* **Timeline**
  + **December** **- February** Announce this in the script for 3 months
    - “Important Announcement: There is a fellowship-wide vote on whether or not to change the language in the Twelve Steps to replace the word “God” with “Higher Power.” Women in Recovery will be conducting this vote for our meetings in March and April 2023 and we will share instructions on how to cast your vote at that time. Please visit marijuana-anonymous.org/vote for more information and contact Carol from Texas with questions.”
  + **March** - in lieu of speaker meeting we propose that we present the information on marijuana-anonymous.org/vote and how we will conduct the vote. On that day we will begin voting.   
      
    - **Agenda for Speaker meeting**
      * Introduce what we are voting on
      * Present how WIR will conduct the vote
      * Make it clear that this meeting is not to talk about our opinions, but simply how we will conduct the vote. *We encourage members to connect with their sponsors and other fellows, and to pray and meditate about their vote.*
      * *Voting opens first Wednesday of March*
  + **March - Close voting on March 31st**
  + **April GC - review the votes determine if we need a tie breaker.**
    - The meeting that needs tie breaker will be informed via the script.
    - Tie breaker vote will run for 2 weeks.
    - If a tie happens for a 2nd time, we will select a meeting and let there be a open discussion people for and against will have a chance to speak to their position. And then open vote on the floor.
    - The chair will act as a tie breaker if there is an even split.
  + **April**

* **May - 9th deadline**
  + Report back how WIR voted. Michelle will bring any questions or concerns to GC.
* **Process**
  + Create a simple email address like [WIRvote@gmail.com](mailto:WIRvotes@gmail.com)
  + Set up autoresponder that includes a nice greeting and a link to a google form.
  + The google form will include the following fields:
    - Background info
    - Link to marijuana-anonymous.org/vote
    - What meetings do you attend (select all that apply):
      * Monday
      * Tuesday
      * Wed
      * Wed speaker meeting
      * Thurs
      * Friday
      * Sat morning
      * Sun
    - Vote (select one):
      * Yes in favor
      * No opposed
      * Vote will be decided by simple majority
    - Submit!
    - Will not collect emails
    - Enable people to edit their vote after they submit.
  + Each meeting will have 1 vote that reflects FOR GC TO DISCUSS Either
* ⅔ vote
* ½ +1 (simple majority)
  + What happens if we
* Michelle will tally votes on May 1st. Will report back to GC in May. Then cast the votes.

* FOR GC: We’d like to ask MAWPM to post the green box on our ma-phone.org website that our membership can read of what is in the green box OR simply have a link to marijuana-anonymous.org/vote  (Either or Both)

**Final Motion, as passed by the 2021 Conference Body:**

That the Conference body sends the following changes to all registered MA groups for written consent, and after no less than 6 months, those ballots returned shall be counted. A yes vote of three-quarters of the returned ballots shall be sufficient to meet the requirement of the Conference Charter to approve the proposed change(s). These changes are to be applied to every instance where the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions are used in MA literature, including the Life with Hope book, Life with Hope 12 Step Workbook, Service Manual, all pamphlets, handouts, website, and the Marijuana Anonymous application.

**Proposed changes:**

1. Step Three: Made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God a Higher Power, as we understood God Higher Power.
2. Step Five: Admitted to God a Higher Power, to ourselves, and to another human being the exact nature of our wrongs.
3. Step Six: Were entirely ready to have God a Higher Power remove all these defects of character.
4. Step Seven: Humbly asked God a Higher Power to remove our shortcomings.
5. Step Eleven: Sought through prayer and meditation to improve our conscious contact with God a Higher Power, as we understood God Higher Power, praying only for knowledge of God’s a Higher Power’s will for us and the power to carry that out.

Tradition Two: For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority, a loving God Higher Power whose expression may come through in our group conscience. Our leaders are but trusted servants; they do not govern.

**New Business**

1. Lilly and Carol and co-chair people coordinators

-motion to approve Lilly and Carol as the co-chair people coordinators, seconded, no opposition, motion is approved by consensus

1. Change title or description of WIR meeting to something that is overtly welcoming to transwomen (e.g., women and female identifying folks, all those identifying as women)

-table this for future discussion/review, person who made the motion proposed that the name of meeting not be changed- but rather the description of the meeting attendees be changed

**Announcements**

**-GC meeting chair to send verbiage for announcement to L. to add to the script on the God/HP vote**

“Important Announcement: There is a fellowship-wide vote on whether or not to change the language in the Twelve Steps to replace the word “God” with “Higher Power.” Women in Recovery will be conducting this vote for our meetings in March and April 2023 and we will share instructions on how to cast your vote at that time. Please visit marijuana-[anonymous.org/vote](http://anonymous.org/vote) for more information and contact Carol from Texas with questions.”

**Motion to adjourn:**

**-motion made, seconded, no opposition**

**Close with Serenity Prayer 8:17**