

MBAR Committee Minutes - Martinez Hall, Marina CA - Saturday, December 12, 2020

I. Call to Order:

Saturday, December 12, 2020

Time: 11:00 am

II: Serenity Prayer

III: Tradition 12 was read: "Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all our traditions, ever reminding us to place principles before personalities." Andy briefly spoke on this tradition, saying the good of the group should come before personalities.

IV: Introduction of all attendees: 16 Cindy welcomed newcomers, inviting them to provide their contact information in chat.

V. Recent A.A. Birthdays: Tim A., 31 years.

VI: Minutes: The minutes were unanimously approved with no changes.

VII: Chairperson's Report:

a. It was pointed out to everyone that the meeting was being recorded.

b. At the last minute, MBAR did not sign the contract with the Conference Center, because they announced they may not have the rooms we want. The Center may need to move us, and want that in the contract. A.A. meetings might be moved from the Steinbeck arena downstairs to the Serra rooms. Al- Anon could be moved to Colton. Cindy brought up getting our deposit back if the 6-ft apart rule were still in effect in September. Carrie said she would specifically ask the Conference Center about this, and have it put in the contract. She also said the Center agreed there would be no increase in cost if we had to move. It's possible we could use some areas as virtual rooms, if needed. Jill brought up negotiating for reduced costs, if we were forced to go to smaller venues.

Jill gave the Treasurer's report. There was one generous 7th tradition donation of \$100, increasing our balance to \$8701.62. This leaves plenty available for our \$5000 deposit on January 15.

Milestones: a) Logo contest. Only 1 entry received. Cindy displayed it onscreen for all to see. The cost to put it on a banner will not be any more than previously, although it is uncertain if all details and colors would appear on T-shirts/mugs. The design was voted on and unanimously approved. Background colors will be finalized later.

b) Registration price: Carrie suggested making the price as attractive as possible, to maximize the number of paying attendees. In the past, non-payers reduced the effective fee from \$40 to \$25 per person. Cindy pointed out we will probably have less income from fundraisers, although costs are likely to be the same. May said it would be a good idea to continue the Helping Hand fund, where those who can't attend pay to help those who do. Donna suggested a partial fee for those attending only 1 or 2 days. Jill proposed \$10 per day, or \$25 for all 3 days; Carrie suggested \$20 per day (\$40 total). Stacy brought up polling members at meetings, to see how many would attend. Thomas pointed out that lack of fundraisers this time will make it hard to lower the registration fee. Roger suggested finding out how many registered we would need to break even at \$25 each vs. \$40 each.

Naomi asked about a deadline for deciding on a virtual vs. in-person conference. Phil and Thomas suggested preparing for a virtual conference as a backup plan. Carrie said a Zoom mini-conference next year could raise interest (and funds) for an in-person conference in 2022. Naomi suggested a full online conference in 2021, with contributions to go toward 2022. Roger's idea was to make the 2021 meeting a hybrid one. Jill pointed out that preparing for two conferences (virtual and in-person) might be too time-consuming. She suggested trying for virtual only. Carrie mentioned that a virtual conference would be a good teaser for 2022, and opened up many more speaker options. She moved to have a virtual meeting in 2021, followed by an in-person MBAR in 2022. Naomi suggested putting the decision off until January, urging members to discuss and pray about it in the meantime.

The motion was tabled until next month, and will be re-introduced at the January meeting. Representatives are urged to poll members of their groups before then. In addition, Carrie suggested a Facebook question on the issue; Naomi said Facebook

has a poll feature we can use.

VIII. Seventh Tradition:

IX. Next Steering Committee meeting is Wednesday, December 30, 2020

X. Next Committee meeting is Saturday, January 9, 2021

XI. Meeting adjourned at 12:12 pm with the Serenity Prayer

Respectfully submitted by Andy Van Tuyl, MBAR Recording Secretary