

MBAR Committee Minutes

Martinez Hall, Marina CA

Saturday, January 9, 2021

I. Call to Order: Saturday, January 9, 2021 - Time: 11:00 am

II: Serenity Prayer

III: Tradition 1 was read: "Our common welfare should come first; personal progress depends upon AA unity." Tim A. briefly spoke on this tradition, saying it meant no member could be compelled, punished, or expelled.

IV: Introduction of all attendees: 19

V. Recent A.A. Birthdays: None.

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

VII: Chairperson's Report:

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

b. Cindy stated that she received a response from the Tax Board, which is asking for more information.

Jill gave the Treasurer's report. We have \$8701 in the bank; no major change since the last report.

Milestones:

a) In-person vs. virtual MBAR. Only 5 (out of 19) respondents to Cindy's e-blast said they would go to an in-person event in 2021. Response to Carrie's Facebook poll was more evenly split: 10 would go to in-person MBAR, 10 would go to virtual, 4 want it postponed to 2022.

Cindy noted that we have \$8700 currently available. The Conference Center would need a \$5000 deposit in January, and there is about \$1000 in other expenses (website, printing, postage, etc.) This would leave us with \$2700. With no fundraisers, would need 400 preregistrations at \$40 each, plus 240 onsite registrations at \$25 each, to break even. Reducing the preregistration fee to \$25 would raise the total number needed to over 1000.

Carrie noted that most registration occurs just before and at the conference, with little preregistration earlier. Arthur brought up possible "Zoom fatigue", as people grow tired of virtual events. Cindy said that if attendance had to be limited due to the pandemic, we would be able to get our deposit back, and that she would make sure to have this in writing.

Thomas brought up delaying MBAR until 2022, when there will be pent-up demand for fellowship. Carrie suggested a virtual 2021 event, held Labor Day weekend, which could act as a fundraiser for the 2022 meeting. That would keep momentum going. Naomi pointed out that Zoom fatigue could still be an issue, whatever the virtual event was called. Arthur suggested using attendance at birthday meetings to estimate interest in a virtual MBAR.

Cory doubted that loss of momentum would be a problem if no MBAR were held in 2021. She also mentioned the possibility of having an outdoor event at Toro Park. Roger asked if the virtual conference would be a full 3 days or only 1. Mona noted that Covid was likely to be endemic through most of 2021, making an in-person conference very unlikely.

Carrie proposed a two-part motion: Should we have an in-person event in 2021? If not, should a virtual conference replace it? May suggested that we let the Conference Center know of these deliberations. She also announced that she will attend the International Women's Conference in February, allowing her to gather information on virtual meetings.

Arthur moved to have no in-person MBAR event in 2021. The motion passed with none opposed. Carrie then moved to table the rest of the conversation (regarding a virtual or outdoor event) until February.

Jill stressed that we should inform the Conference Center we want Labor Day 2022. She also said we still need chairpersons, either for a virtual event or 2022.

Anyone with ideas on a virtual conference should send them to the Steering Committee.

VIII. Seventh Tradition:

IX. Next Steering Committee meeting is Wednesday, February 3, 2021

X. Next Committee meeting is Saturday, February 13, 2021

XI. Meeting adjourned at 12:02 pm with the Serenity Prayer

Respectfully submitted by Andy Van Tuyl, MBAR Recording Secretary