

MBAR Committee Minutes

Martinez Hall, Marina CA

Saturday, April 10, 2021

I. Call to Order:

Saturday, April 10, 2021

Time: 11:00 am

II: Serenity Prayer

III: **Tradition 4 was read:** "Each group should be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or A.A. as a whole." Cindy discussed this tradition, saying it means our group doesn't have to do what another group does, or vice versa, as long as it doesn't harm A.A. as a whole.

IV: **Introduction of all attendees:** 10

V. Recent A.A. Birthdays: None.

VI: **Minutes:** Jill pointed out that we paid \$646 for web maintenance the previous month, not \$846. The minutes were approved with this correction.

VII: **Chairperson's Report:**

- a. It was mentioned, as always, that the meeting was being recorded.
- b. Cindy reported that she had asked Mercy to be the new treasurer. Mercy said she was excited at the prospect, and was glad that MBAR would continue. A motion was introduced to confirm Mercy as the new treasurer. It passed with 8 in favor, none opposed.

Jill gave the Treasurer's report. The current balance is \$5555. This includes the \$2500 paid to the Conference Center. Jill also said that we are now officially tax-exempt in California, according to a recent letter. We may now look into a Federal tax exemption as well.

Milestones:

Budget: Cindy shared a screenshot of the proposed 2022 budget. She pointed out that we no longer have our \$10,000 prudent reserve, as we have been dipping into it since 2019. The budget set aside for fundraisers is \$0, to avoid the problems encountered in putting them on. Early registration (A.A. and AI-Anon) and onsite registration will both need to be increased from 2019, in order to balance the budget. The projected income from all registration is \$17,000.

Less 7th tradition income has been coming from MBAR committee meetings, thanks to Zoom. Cindy suggested inviting others to contribute via PayPal. There is \$300 projected for 7th tradition at the MBAR marathon meetings.

Before October, we need to decide whether to renew our Zoom account (\$150), or resume in-person meetings at the VTC. Jill suggested we would get better attendance at a Zoom meeting.

Printing and mailing expenses were discussed. Jill proposed that we continue to do printing, to distribute materials at meetings and elsewhere, but no mailing. The question will be decided later.

Estimated cost for the conference center is \$7500. No money is budgeted for security this time; 2019 was the only year we had it. Carrie brought up some of the recent mass shootings, asking if the Conference Center had their own security. Cindy said she did not believe any was included in the contract, but said she would ask. Jill suggested A.A. volunteers could serve as security. Carrie suggested only using people who were currently security, and could be unobtrusive.

Carrie made a motion to continue examining budget numbers this month, then vote on the budget next month. The motion passed with none opposed.

Audiovisual expenses are projected to be \$3600; there seems no likely way to make them lower. We have not needed insurance in the past, and should not this time. The amount set aside for speaker expenses is \$2000. Phil said he would like help on the speaker committee. Jill suggested setting up Zoom for some of the speakers; Carrie pointed out that the cost would be less than that for airfare and a hotel. Mercy said Zoom speakers are still rewarding, and would be a good way to keep costs down.

\$2000 is projected for speaker lodging; this is less than in 2019, as it would only be for 2 nights. Reimbursements for AI-Anon speaker travel and lodging are estimated as \$1100. Other projected expenses include: \$200 speaker gifts, \$1200 ASL interpreters, \$160 banners, \$200 decorations, \$30 literature, \$125 preregistration raffle. The hospitality suite may cost \$400, unless we can use Bethlehem Lutheran for coffee. Our new tax-exempt status might save us \$200 in fees. It is possible we will not serve breakfast, as the conference is only two days.

The proposed budget has a surplus of \$10,000, the amount of our prudent reserve. To clarify, we currently have no prudent reserve in addition to the \$5555 balance.

VIII. **Seventh Tradition:**

IX. **Next Steering Committee meeting:** Wednesday, April 28, 2021

X. **Next Committee meeting:** Saturday, May 8, 2021

XI. **Meeting adjourned:** at 12:10 pm with the Serenity Prayer

Respectfully submitted by Andy Van Tuyl, MBAR Recording Secretary