

MPS Minutes

Members and Public Service Committee Monthly Teleconference Meeting

3 October 2018 | 11 AM PACIFIC / 2 PM EASTERN TIME

TELECONFERENCE: 712 770 4700 / ACCESS CODE: 743112#

CHAIR CAROLE C.

VICE CHAIR: DAVID McB

CHAIR: Called meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. Pacific with the Traditional Serenity Prayer

Roll call: Carole, Mary Jo, Laura, Miles, Sharon, David, Matt

Approved September Minutes unanimously

OPEN ISSUES:

PSAs: Laura is working with Africa and seeing what they might be able to do with them there.

ACA and Social Media:

Discussion about looking into some of the ACA Social Media pages continued from last month. David talked to some people to find out how they set them up. With Facebook, he found that they can be private, but people still share content through their non-private pages. He suggested we have a Forum from our website that we could moderate and would also work for search engine optimization. Carole and Mary Jo talked about the one WSO had in the 1990s and early 2000s. The site was closed down due to the difficulty of monitoring it and that abuse occurred. David replied that we have better systems available now for moderation that involves posts being approved before being posted. We need more discussion and more research on this subject.

Teen meetings: Name now changed to “Young Adult meetings”

We reached out last month on this subject. We are waiting to hear about the Long Island’s Intergroup from Justine and whether a trifold targeted at Alateens is being generated. We have had some discussion on Slack on the subject of Young Adult meetings. We discussed reaching out to people involved in Alateen, sending an email blast to the fellowship asking for any information on the subject, and putting a request into the Traveler. We had found some Teen meetings in the WSO listings and have noticed people on Slack who have expressed interest..

SUB – COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Intergroups: Chair, Bonnie:

Since the ABC there has been revived interest in IGSC [Intergroup Subcommittee] service. The newer committee members are full of ideas on ways the IGSC can better serve the IGs. Most have already demonstrated willingness to work, taking on many of the committee's "chores." We have been making use of website and database improvements as they come online. It was slow going as we struggled to organize ourselves but using the Doodle program we eventually began monthly teleconferences. We were able to draft a statement for the Service Structure Committee to further define the role of an intergroup in service to the

fellowship. We have begun to discuss roles and responsibilities within the committee and decided to move forward with a process of intentional design to develop our future mission.

Presently: WSO has ninety registered Intergroups worldwide. Our IG meeting has had eight people in attendance/actively participating in regular IGSC teleconferences

Future: Going forward, we plan to develop a needs assessment survey to poll the IGs about how we can best be of service to them. We will verify contact information for each IG, encouraging them to keep their registrations current, assisting with the process where needed. We will develop a welcome letter for each new IG, explaining the committee's role and inviting them to join IG Forum channel on Slack. We envision using "*The Traveler*" to regularly disseminate information to the fellowship. We will make regular reports to WSO via the MPS committee. To maintain fellowship unity, we will work with other committees where we have overlapping interests. We will advocate for IGs within the WSO. We look forward to what will make this year our most productive to date.

Respectfully submitted, Bonnie K-M

H&I: Chair, Miles:

Sent out two requests for literature. One was to an inmate in the Montana State Prison. We have multiple requests from some institutions from their inmates, so it was suggested that H&I make it a policy to send a letter to the counselors in the institutions from which any inmate requests come. A counselor in Quebec wants to start an ACA meeting in a prison there. Miles is attempting to contact Dorchester Penitentiary in New Brunswick as well.

Public Outreach: – Chair needed. Temporary committee members are: Miles, Matt, and David

They want to concentrate on getting our information into 'Big AA' in New York and the '2020 International AA Convention' in Detroit. Miles's home group is celebrating their 4th year and has sent out invitations to the ministers in their area. He has also sent out notices to different newspapers regarding ACA. David is reaching out to psychologists and psychiatrists for information to develop a pamphlet for those professions. Laura added to the discussion that a few IGs have posted interest for Public Outreach on the IG Slack Channel.

***Public Outreach's Zonal Focus Group:* –**

In response to last's month's discussion about sending links to WSO Minutes, Reports, PSAs, etc. to Africa where this group asked if anyone had an interest in a pan-African focus group to support service work there (and PSAs), Laura has heard back from Zambia that they want information from past Africa focus groups. She sent them links to past WSO Minutes on the subject and is considering having monthly or bi-monthly updates to post on the Repository. The consensus was to change the name of the group to "Global Outreach," and Sharon said she will change the name in the Traveler as well.

Regional Development Outreach: Temporary Chair, Matt –

The Midwest Regional Committee continues to focus on networking and believes it will eventually lead to regional formation. Matt is encouraged that the IGs are talking to each other. He suggested that MPS change the name of this subcommittee to **Regions**. MPS will ask the Board for approval. Matt agrees to be the contact person for applications and inquiries that WSO gets until we have a Chair for this subcommittee. He has not heard of groups outside of the USA forming regions.

The Greater Western USA Region (GWU) is listed on the website as Region 2. GWU has its website up. On it are posted their Vision Statement and a condensed version of what they are about. They are working on their Mission Statement. Their teleconferenced monthly meeting is the 3rd Saturday of the month at 11 Pacific. They have a Slack site. If anyone is interested in joining it, email gwaregion@gmail.com. Their website is: <https://www.gwaregion.org>. A brief discussion

arose about the GWU having a monthly teleconference. It is the opinion of the majority of the Directors of that region that a monthly meeting assures that the region stays on focus, get more work accomplished, and get more people involved.

Virtual Meetings: Liaisons, David & Sharon -

This subcommittee met on September 24th and reviewed security measures for updating meetings and contact information. They will contact the office and see if they will be willing to contact three group meetings about their contact information. **New business:** re., rotation of service for the dashboard. Some phone meetings use a dashboard, and some do not. David discussed some of the issues that the telephone meetings have and that the meetings are putting safety controls in place to deal with this. For instance, instituting a policy of muting the people in a meeting and reading literature for three minutes if someone is being inappropriate. They, then, start back and proceed as long as the inappropriate behavior does not continue. Also, some meetings use nocostconference.com.

New Business:

Sharon: She is on the website committee and can post on the Repository.

Matt: He asked about meeting updates and was told to send a list of the defunct meetings to meetings@acawso.com.

Next Meeting: December 5, 2018 at 2 P.M. Eastern Time (11 A.M. Pacific)

Adjourn with the ACA Serenity Prayer