

Business Meeting – March 29, 2020

Meeting began with chairperson Cindy reading a short history of our meeting:

Started in Jan 2019 as a 3-month pilot, we wanted the meeting to have clarity and that it worked before we put it online. In the beginning there were 2-3 people and we announced the meeting and at times would get up to 6 people.

We finally felt we had a good format and submitted our format to be put on the UA website. Because we saw our focus was on electric media time drunkenness, this format did not include the symptoms and tools of UA. Our format submission was rejected, which was disheartening, as we had put so much work into it. It was rejected because the reviewers said there was not enough UA literature in the format. We decided to include the symptoms and tools of UA and the format was immediately accepted and put on the UA website.

As a 1-hour meeting, we had always felt concerned about making sure there was enough time for sharing. In the beginning with only 3-5 people, this was not a problem. In the beginning it was also hard to get people to volunteer to read. As you can see, we have grown a lot in the last year.

We did have a business meeting 9 months ago to vote to see if we wanted to decrease the amount of reading in the group. The group conscious voted to keep ALL the reading, even the symptoms and tools of UA. It was agreed that newcomers to UA, since sometimes this meeting was their first UA meeting, needed to have the UA tools so that a newcomer could see the full essence of the UA program.

As time has gone on, and we have grown, members found that there were parts of our format script that were confusing for the moderator and members. About 3 months ago we voted to have a committee go through our format and make it clearer. A committee of two, Jane and myself, took on this task. Over the months Jane and I worked on this format, and this is what we will be voting on today: the textual changes in our format.

Old Business

--Our secretary Jane read the suggested changes to the format which were available for viewing by our members in a pdf file on our website at <https://mediarecoveryua.wixsite.com/media-addicts-anon/business-meetings>. The changes were highlighted in yellow.

--A motion was made and seconded to make the changes as read by Jane and highlighted on our website in yellow **EXCEPT FOR THE FOLLOWING CHANGES WHICH WILL EACH BE VOTED ON SEPARATELY DURING THE NEW BSUIENSS PORTION OF OUR MEETING:**

- a) Take up to 6 names so more people can read.
- b) Read the Serenity Prayer at the end of the meeting rather than the 7th Step Prayer to save time.

- c) Renumber the readings #1-#14 to help moderator and readers keep better track of the readings.
- d) Not change to our new number until we are able to post the new format on the UA website, which can take up to a month once we send it to UA.
- e) Previously our meeting has been restricted to 1hr 15 min, including the fellowship meeting/business meeting time, because another group follows us and uses that same number. Now that we have a new MAA dedicated number, we can extend the length of our meeting if we so vote to allow more people time to share.

--The motion was restated to **CONTINUE TO EXCLUDE THE CHANGES LISTED ABOVE IN A) THROUGH E)** but to include the following:

- a) In #1 of how the meeting will unfold, change to read, "We begin by reading How It Works, the UA 12 Steps, Tradition of the Month, and 12th Tradition."
- b) In #5 of how the meeting will unfold, change to read, "The sharing will end 5 minutes before the meeting closes and I facilitate the phone number exchange for those who are looking for sponsors, action partners, and outreach calls."

--Motion was put to a vote and a request was made for voters to identify themselves:

- a) As business chair, Cindy removed herself from vote
- b) Leslie, no
- c) Jane, yes
- d) Mary Ann, yes
- e) Sabrina, yes
- f) Adrian, abstain
- g) Brenda, abstain
- h) Melanie, yes
- i) Paula, yes

--Vote passed: 5 yes, 1 no, 2 abstain

New Business

--The suggested changes listed above that each need a separate vote:

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- b) Read the Serenity Prayer at the end of the meeting rather than the 7th Step Prayer to save time.
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--Discuss again whether or not to read all the tools of Media Addicts Anonymous or to read the UA tools to allow more time for sharing.

--Discuss whether or not to have a qualifier speak to allow more time for sharing.

--The business meeting was extended twice so that a vote could be taken on revising the format so that it was easier for the moderator and members to follow, and as such, there was no time for new business.