

MAICO Steering Committee Meeting
Tuesday, February 13, 2007

Craig L., Ken K. (treasurer), Diane B. (Office Manager), Dave (chair), Pam (vice chair),
Chris H (secretary, recording)
Not Present: Jan (ill)

Secretary's Report: Live! Moved, seconded, and accepted.

Treasurer's Report: \$20 was moved into investments to makeup for \$800 which was withdrawn. Investments is supposed to be 6 months operating expenses. Craig asked about previous withdrawals. There were some for a new computer, etc—and just now we're trying to reinvest.

Ken did talk to Kris. Diane will email expense and income figures to Ken. Pam mentioned that Kris also had worked up inventory, cost, and discrepancy report at some point.

Craig asked if conference literature is usually around 40% [of sales?]. Diane & Pam think probably so. Treasurer's report: moved, seconded, and accepted.

Office manager's report: volunteers are ok. There are five people for Tuesdays, including a superfluity tonight. Saturdays we have this month covered. March and April are open.

Big Book study was a success, even with weather, etc., which was a pleasant surprise. After expenses including hotel, travel expenses, etc., profit was \$721.97. That does not include merchandise sold. Craig thought it seemed like a lot of out of towners Pam said only on Fri., not Saturday. The general consensus of the committee[s] is that we should do this again. The possibility exists for other types of workshops.

WICYPAA was a surprising success. Nancy and Ken G filled in.

MAICO also set up literature and information about AA for **South Madison Family Health**. We set up a display case for February there. The Al-Anon number is there too. Diane expressed some concern about affiliation, but all agreed that this was "not a big deal." Dave said we get as many AlAnon calls as we do AA, and Pam said that leaving their number doesn't imply affiliation. Diane left the AA information sheet, posted front and back. There is a spanish-speaking community too, so we left some Spanish information as well.

Craig asked if the district knows about this. Diane emailed Doreen, but right now there is no PI Chair. Thus MAICO filled the request instead of the PI person.

Conference—no further information, though we have been invited. Volunteers usually aren't a problem for this. We have also been invited to do a workshop March 24, a

Saturday, in Reedsburg. It's a sponsorship workshop, so we're going to do that—we'll find out whether they want all MAICO offerings or AA-only merchandise.

Conference calls: we've been trying to get people outside of Dane County involved in steering and reps meetings—a Boscobel group asked and they would like to be involved, but they don't want to drive 1 hour for a half hour meeting. We looked into the price of conference calls. AT&T is 10 cents a minute per person—dedicated, tollfree, continuous number with code, etc. Another option is through corporate conference calls, toll-free number, 5.9 cents/min per person; TDS wants \$0.16/min/person, for which we need a different phone and different line.

Dave said that with only one person, we could just do it with a phone and a long distance line, since we have another line for the fax.

Diane agreed and said that right now Boscobel is the only group interested, but if we make it possible, others may be interested. Maybe we should try it? Will go in the newsletter.

Craig announced that Thursday 5:30 is "Pick on Craig night" at Fitchburg, room d Big Book study and discussion group. Dinner afterwards too.

New business

Outside audit of books: Pam thought it was definitely necessary. Takes out all questions, and discovers problems. Ken said that this is not the purpose of the audit. Is it worth doing? Ken said the cost will be prohibitive. A first year audit will be \$3,000, at least, probably more because of it being a first year. Not necessarily a bad idea, but he said it was only a good idea for this other organization he works with because they get public funding.

Is changeover [of positions] from year to year enough [to prevent possible malfeasance]? Ken said that if we're doing some analysis and looking at some trends, that'll be enough to catch radical changes. Pam said that Mark[?] did some trending, though she never did as treasurer. Ken added that this can also serve to work up budgets. A review statement is less expensive, maybe 2,000, and they'll ask procedural questions. A one person office will have not internal controls. They'll also do operational and trend analysis, and Ken is actually doing that with the MAICO books now. Pam said that she doesn't want to spend the money on that, but had the concern that something should be done. If we're doing all the other procedures, then that's good enough.

At this point Chris showed off his typing skills. Others were tolerantly appreciative of his arrogance.

MAICO Awareness—There was some discussion about getting people out to new meetings as we know about them. At some meetings people were threatened by a MAICO presence when we're looking for contact information, etc., and many didn't know about MAICO. It would be good to know about new meetings to approach. Anyone, not necessarily a rep or committee member, but someone who can tell people

about MAICO, should try to inform new groups. Just in Madison area, it's the biggest problem with people participating. It was suggested for discussion at the reps meeting.

Diane also suggested sending out a sheet with requests for 12 step list. In the past, people looking for help called AA groups—now we pool resources.

Someone asked about having that request ask for more than just three volunteers for the 12-step list, as in asking the group to write down their MAICO reps's name. We actually do have a form asking for the full information about representative positions in the group, etc.

Chris suggested a coordinated campaign to increase group awareness of and participation in MAICO. The committee agreed this would be a good idea. We used to do something like this with districts. One of the steering committee goes out to the district. The problem is that the grps that are at the meetings are already informed, but those who don't attend or have GSRs never find out about MAICO.

Might it be possible to coordinate with district [20?]? Craig said that the District has tried to do this sort of thing.

Group information forms could be made available, too.

It was also mentioned that nothing stops people from spreading the MAICO message at any meetings we're at, and Pam mentioned that her group has no rep at the moment.

Crisis situations—not exactly a crisis—Diane said its always been the policy that if anything happens we talk to the chairperson. [This refers to the furnace failure in the MAICO office last month.]

Craig said—my opinion is we shouldn't have to be contacted, and if you're freezing, it's a crisis—but we can let you [Diane B] use your own common sense. Because the turn around time is too long. Just notify the committee that its happened. Diane said that she called the answering service to let them know too.

Office backup person—a retired woman from Janesville covered the office at xmas time. Diane said we don't have someone who knows all office procedures, etc., so she asked Cindy if she would be willing to do a complete training. It would be nice to have someone competent as a backup.

Pam knew how to do this sort of thing yrs ago, but probably not now. Use the procedures book.

The committee discussed compensation for the back up.

MAICO reps at clubhouse board meeting. There is a clubhouse summit meeting coming up. At last meeting they wanted a rep of MAICO to attend their meeting. Pam asked, Why do they want us there?

Diane said “To let us know who they are and what they’re doing.”

The general consensus is that clubhouses are not AA, so we needn’t send a rep.

The consensus is also that the line is blurry between aa and not [in this geographical area].

Capital Steps and non-conference literature: Chris reported that Capital Steps had decided to resume donations to MAICO, but still had concerns about non-conference literature and the Traditions. He asked the committee to consider this matter. The topic was tabled due to time concerns.