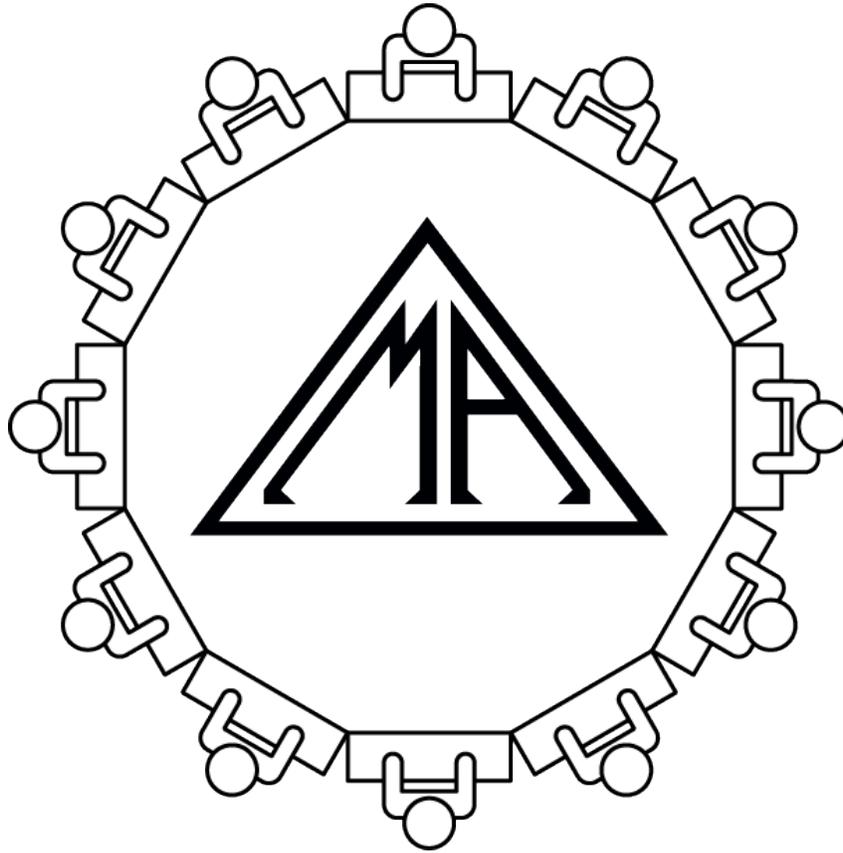


Marijuana Anonymous World Services



World Services Conference

<http://mawsconference.org/>

May 26–29, 2017

Hosted by District 5 – Orange County, CA
at California State University Fullerton

Conference Materials and Agenda Items

District Group Conscience Record

The purpose of the table below is for districts to be able to track the district conscience on each of the agenda items. It is for private use and will not be examined or collected at the conference.

It is recommended that for each meeting's group conscience, a tick mark is made in the appropriate column so that an overall district conscience can be viewed at a glance.

Example:

	Agenda Item	Yes	No
1	Agenda Item 1		
2	Agenda Item 2	 	

	Agenda Item	Yes	No
0	Shall the District offer to host the 2019 Conference		
00	Shall the District offer to host the 2019 Convention		
A	Denver, Colorado, shall be recognized as a District (21)		
B	New England shall be recognized as a District (22)		
C	Service Sponsorship shall be added to Trustee Job Descriptions		
D	Establish a standing Correspondence Committee		
E	Increase No of Trustees to 11, and Alternates to 3		
F	Literature Committee to research 3rd party publishing (Hazelden)		
G	LwH Stories and Updates		
H	MA World Services Conference Archive		
I	MA World Services Tax ID Number Use Policy Be Explicitly Followed		
J	"None of us are perfect"		
K	Group Conscience on MA's Steps and Traditions		
L	Revise ANLP Charter		

Conference Delegate Responsibilities

The Delegate's primary responsibility is to serve as liaison between the District and MA World Services throughout the year that begins with each Conference. This begins with Delegates attending the MA World Services Conference and voting on all matters that are to be decided according to the conscience of the District's groups. The Delegate votes on policies affecting MA as a whole and participates in the selection of Trustees and Service Committee chairs.

Delegates participate on one or more committees at the Conference and are expected to continue such participation throughout the following year. Delegates are responsible for reporting MA World Services' activities to the Districts throughout the year and for insuring that MA World Services receives updated contact information for the DSC Chair, Treasurer, Communications and other officers so MA World Services can communicate with them regarding world-level activities and issues that are within their purview.

The Delegate has an important responsibility to report the conscience of the groups for which he or she speaks. An essential part of the service of the Delegate is to attend the MA World Services Conference. The Delegate should be prepared to work in a cooperative and helpful manner over long hours and sometimes trying circumstances.

The Delegate should forever strive to place principles before personalities. He or she ought to listen carefully and respectfully to differing opinions and tolerate fairness of debate. The Delegate should seek to streamline and further the fair decision-making process and seek to avoid unnecessary disruption of the process of debate and decision.

Delegate Specific Duties:

- 1) Attend the MA World Services Conference.
 - a) Submit to the Conference a written status report on the district and its meetings.
 - b) Vote on motions according to the conscience of the district's meetings.
 - c) Serve on a Conference Committee at the Conference and throughout the year.
 - d) Register on the MA World Services Forum providing input and feedback throughout the year.
- 2) Report at District Service Committee meetings.
 - a) Conference information.
 - b) Minutes from quarterly Trustee meetings.
 - c) The ongoing activities of MA World Services committees.
 - d) MA World Services quarterly financial report.
- 3) Act as District liaison between MA World Services Treasurer and District Treasurer
 - a) If the District uses the MA World Services Taxpayer Identification Number, insure that financial statements are sent to the MA World Services Treasurer in a timely fashion.

- 4) Keep MA World Services informed and up to date.
 - a) Submit meeting schedule changes to the MA World Services Administrator.
 - b) Submit contact information for District officers and chairs to the Administrator.
- 5) Report the group's and District's conscience to MA World Services in setting the Conference agenda by a date that is four months prior to the Conference and at the Conference.
- 6) Act as District liaison to annual Convention.
- 7) Act as service sponsor to successor delegates, informing them of their duties and what to expect at the Conference.

Conference Delegate Report

5-minute presentation to the Conference body, please address one or more of the following:

- How is your District supporting new meetings?
- How is your District attracting new members?
- Tell us about your most successful fundraising effort?

The Twelve Traditions of Marijuana Anonymous

1. Our common welfare should come first; personal recovery depends upon MA unity.
2. For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority, a loving God whose expression may come through in our group conscience. Our leaders are but trusted servants; they do not govern.
3. The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop using marijuana.
4. Each group should be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or MA as a whole.
5. Each group has but one primary purpose, to carry its message to the marijuana addict who still suffers.
6. MA groups ought never endorse, finance, or lend the MA name to any related facility or outside enterprise, lest problems of money, property, and prestige divert us from our primary purpose.
7. Every MA group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions.
8. Marijuana Anonymous should remain forever nonprofessional, but our service centers may employ special workers.
9. MA, as such, ought never be organized, but we may create service boards or committees directly responsible to those they serve.
10. Marijuana Anonymous has no opinion on outside issues; hence the MA name ought never be drawn into public controversy.
11. Our public relations policy is based upon attraction rather than promotion; we need always maintain personal anonymity at the level of press, radio, t.v., film, and other public media. We need guard with special care the anonymity of all fellow MA members.
12. Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all our traditions, ever reminding us to place principles before personalities.

Approved by the General Service Conference of Marijuana Anonymous, October 1989 and World Service Conference, May 1992.

The Twelve Concepts for Service in Marijuana Anonymous

1. The Marijuana Anonymous service structure was created to give the groups the freedom to carry out our society's primary purpose of carrying the message to marijuana addicts.
2. The ultimate authority and responsibility for service in Marijuana Anonymous is the collective conscience of the groups.
3. The Marijuana Anonymous groups have delegated to its service committees and trusted servants the full authority to conduct Marijuana Anonymous' business and service regarding district as well as world affairs.
4. All members of a service committee have the "Right of Participation," and bear substantial responsibility for the service committee's decisions.
5. Group conscience is the spiritual means by which service decisions are made.
6. A "Right of Appeal" exists to protect minority opinions, and to ensure that all viewpoints have been considered in the decision-making process.
7. The scope of responsibility and authority of every service position should be well defined to ensure accountability of all service positions as well as the ability to perform each position.
8. Effective leadership qualities are essential for trustees, who are entrusted with the responsibility of making final decisions regarding general world service business and finances.
9. The Articles of Incorporation and By-laws of Marijuana Anonymous World Services, Inc., are legal documents that empower the trustees to manage and conduct world service business; the conference charter is not a legal document but relies on the force of the traditions and power of the group conscience.
10. The integrity of our service structure depends on continued unity of Marijuana Anonymous groups, districts, and World Services through effective communication.
11. Marijuana Anonymous' funds and resources should be managed responsibly to ensure their most efficient use in carrying out the primary purpose of Marijuana Anonymous.
12. The Marijuana Anonymous service structure should be one of selfless service and not of power or government, ensuring that the spiritual principles of the 12 Steps, 12 Traditions, and the warranties of Article 12 of the conference charter are always maintained.

Approved by the World Service Conference of Marijuana Anonymous, May 1996

2017 Conference Program & Agenda

Pre-Conference Schedule: Friday, May 26, 2017

2:00pm	Check-in Opens
6:00pm - 8:00pm	Meet and Greet
8:00pm - 9:00pm	New Delegate Orientation
9:00pm - 10:00pm	MA Meeting

Day 1:**Saturday, May 27, 2017**

7:00am - 8:00am	Breakfast
8:00am - 1:00pm	General Session I
8:00am - 8:20am	Welcome, Introductions, Agenda Overview
8:20am - 8:35am	Introduction to Motions
8:35am - 9:00am	Consent Agenda (Fast Track) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approve Agenda • Adoption of Standing Rules • Approve 2016 Conference Minutes
9:00am - 10:00am	MA World Services Reports (9 Trustees, ANLP)
10:00am - 10:15am	Break
10:15am - 11:15am	MA World Services Reports Continued
11:15am - 12:00pm	District Reports
12:00pm - 1:00pm	Lunch
1:00pm - 6:30pm	General Session II
1:00pm - 2:00pm	District Reports <i>continued</i>
2:00pm - 2:50pm	Fast Track Motions & Motions
2:50pm - 3:00pm	Break
3:00pm - 4:30pm*	Motions <i>continued</i>
4:30pm - 4:40pm	Break
4:40pm - 6:00pm*	Motions <i>continued</i> <i>*May be extended 30 mins at Chair's discretion</i>
6:00pm - 10:00pm	Evening Activity
6:00pm - 8:00pm	Evening Recess - Dinner
8:00pm - 9:00pm	Service Workshops
9:00pm - 10:00pm	MA Meeting

Day 2:**Sunday, May 28, 2017**

7:00am - 8:00am	Breakfast
8:00am - 12:00pm	General Session III
8:00am - 8:10am	Introduction to Committee Work
8:10am - 8:20am	Walk to Breakout Sessions
8:20am - 12:00pm	Committee Breakout Sessions - Part I
12:00pm - 1:00pm	Lunch
1:00pm - 6:00pm	General Session IV
1:00pm - 1:15pm	Introduction to Trustee Elections
1:15pm - 2:45pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trustee Elections • (takes place throughout General Session IV) • 2019 Conference Host Districts Selected • 2019 Convention Host Districts Selected • Committee Reports & Motions
2:45pm - 3:00pm	Break
3:00pm - 3:50pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trustee Elections <i>continued</i> • Committee Reports & Motions <i>continued</i>
3:50pm - 4:00pm	Walk to Breakout Sessions
4:00pm - 6:00pm	Committee Breakout Sessions - Part II
6:00pm - 10:00pm	*Evening Activity
6:00pm - 7:30pm *Trustees & Trustee Elects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • *Outgoing Quarterly Trustees Meeting, with incoming Trustees in attendance • Dinner
6:00pm - 8:00pm	Evening Recess – <i>up to 2 hours</i>
8:00pm - 9:00pm	Service Workshops
9:00pm - 10:00pm	MA Meeting

Day 3:

Monday, May 29, 2017

7:00am - 8:00am	Breakfast
8:00am - 12:00pm	General Session V
8:00am - 9:00am	Budget Presentation & Adoption
9:00am - 10:00am	Committee Reports & Motions; Motions from the Floor
10:00am - 10:15am	Break
10:15am - 11:30am	Committee Reports & Motions; Motions from the Floor <i>continued</i>
11:30am - 1:00pm	Lunch in Committee Groups
1:00pm - 3:30pm	General Session VI
1:00pm - 2:00pm	Committee Presentations & Motions, <i>cont'd, if needed</i> ; Motions from the Floor, <i>if needed</i>
2:00pm - 3:00 pm	New Committee Break out
3:00pm - 3:30pm	Conference Culmination

Standing Rules

Marijuana Anonymous World Service Conference of 2017

Rule 1 Purpose

The Conference is the guardian of the Traditions of Marijuana Anonymous (MA), the perpetrators of the world services of our Society, and the voice of the group conscience of our entire Fellowship.

Rule 2 General Warranties of the Conference

In all its proceedings, the World Service Conference shall observe the spirit of the MA Traditions, taking care that the Conference never becomes the seat of perilous wealth or power; that sufficient operating funds, plus an ample reserve, be its prudent financial principle; that none of the Conference Members shall ever be placed in a position of unqualified authority over any of the others; that all important decisions be reached by discussion, vote, and whenever possible, by substantial unanimity; that no Conference action ever be personally punitive or an incitement to public controversy; that though the Conference may act for the service of MA, it shall never perform any acts of government; and that, like the Society of Marijuana Anonymous which it serves, the Conference itself will always remain democratic in thought and action.

Rule 3 Conference Relation to MA

The Conference will act for MA in the perpetuation and guidance of its world services and it will also be the vehicle by which MA can express its views upon all matters of vital MA policy and all deviations from our Traditions. Delegates, Trustees and Service Committee Heads should be free to vote as their conscience dictates and decide what questions should be taken to the group level, for information, discussion, or their own direct instruction.

Any change in the General Warranties of the Conference (see Rule 2 above), The Twelve Traditions of MA, or The Twelve Steps of MA must be made with the written consent of three-quarters of the MA groups, as defined in the resolution adopted by the October, 1989 Conference.

Rule 4 Voting Members

The Conference shall be open to all members of the Society and special workers. The voting members of the Conference (Members) are the Marijuana Anonymous World Services (MA World Services) Trustees, duly-elected Marijuana Anonymous (MA) Delegates and appointed or elected MA World Services committee heads and coordinators in attendance. This includes the ANLP Chairperson or another ANLP Executive Director. Each MA District may elect two Delegates. Each Member has only one vote, no matter how many positions they may hold.

Members must be sober. Sobriety is defined as abstinence from marijuana and all mind altering substances, including alcohol.

Rule 5 Quorum

A quorum shall consist of two-thirds of the Members registered to attend the Conference.

Rule 6 Chairperson

A Chairperson, often referred to as the Chair, presides over the meeting. The MA World Services President shall act as the Conference Chairperson. If absent, the Secretary shall act as the Conference Chairperson.

Otherwise, any Member may be nominated and elected by a majority vote to act as Conference Chairperson.

A Member who wishes to address the Conference body gets the attention of the Chair by raising a hand, and waits until called upon. This is done in silence with two notable exceptions: “Point of Order” and “Point of Information” (see below).

Rule 7 Consent Agenda

A consent agenda may be presented by the Chair. Items may be removed from the consent agenda on the request of any one Member. Items not removed may be adopted by general consent without debate. Removed items shall be taken up immediately after the consent agenda.

Rule 8 Motions

Motions are formal proposals for action. A motion must be offered by a Member or Standing Committee. Unless offered by a Standing Committee, a motion must be seconded, that is, endorsed for discussion by another Member who calls out “second!” If there is no second, the motion is not put before the group.

If desired by the Chair or any other Member, any main motion, or amendment thereto, shall be reduced to writing, delivered to the Chair and stated before it shall be debated. Until the Chair states the question, the maker has the right to modify the motion at will or to withdraw it entirely. There may be only one main motion active, or “on the floor,” at a time.

Rule 9 Stating the Question

When a motion has been moved, and seconded as required, the Chair, unless he rules it out of order, immediately states the exact question that is before the Conference body for its consideration and action. Motions that have been moved, seconded as required, and stated by the Chair are no longer the property of the maker, but of the Conference body. Therefore, the original maker no longer has the sole right to withdraw or change the motion.

If the text of a motion has been distributed to the Members in advance and with sufficient time for careful reading, the motion need not be read in its entirety when moved or stated by the Chair.

Rule 10 Amendments

Amendments are subsidiary motions that modify the wording, and often the meaning, of the main motion. Amendments made and seconded are debated and voted upon (or accepted by unanimous consent) by the Conference body before the vote for the main motion occurs. Amendments should say exactly where in the main motion the change is to be made, and precisely what words to use. The Conference body must adopt any amendment either by a vote or by unanimous consent in order to attach it to the main motion. This is true whether or not the amendment is endorsed by the maker of the main motion.

Rule 11 Debate

No motion shall be debated until seconded, as required, and stated by the Chair. Debate is the discussion on the merits of a pending question to determine if the issue should be adopted or not. Debate shall be managed by the Chair in an impartial manner. Members may participate in debate only when they are recognized by the Chair. Debate may be interrupted, e.g. a Member may interrupt another Member who has the floor to make a motion to Recess or Adjourn, to raise a Point of Privilege, a Point of Information, or a Point of Order. The Member making a motion is entitled to speak first; Members who have not spoken on the issue shall be recognized ahead of those who have previously spoken.

A Member may speak twice to a motion, and twice to any subsidiary motion, on the same day, but the Member may take their second turn only after everyone who wishes to speak for the first time has spoken. If debate on the motion is continued on another day, the Member's right to debate is renewed. Each Member may speak for five (5) minutes on each turn.

Unless extended by a two-thirds vote, debate on any main motion, together with any amendments, shall be limited to forty-five (45) minutes.

Rule 12 Previous Question

When recognized by the Chair, a Member may offer a motion to close debate and require a vote on the pending motion. The proper wording is, "I move the Previous Question." A motion for Previous Question must be seconded, is not debatable, and may be adopted by an immediate two-thirds vote or by unanimous consent.

Rule 13 Postponement of Motions

The following methods of postponing pending motions are subsidiary motions that require proper recognition by the Chair, must be seconded and require a simple majority vote.

1. A motion to **Postpone to a Certain Time** is debatable, and temporarily sets the motion aside until the designated time.
2. A motion to **Postpone Indefinitely** is debatable and, in effect, "kills" the motion.
3. A motion to **Refer to a Committee** is debatable and may be used to facilitate informal discussion.
4. A motion to **Lay on the Table** is not debatable, and sets the motion aside in order to take up something else of immediate urgency. The original motion remains set aside until a member moves to bring it back up.

Rule 14 Voting

When the Chair determines that the Conference body is ready to vote, the Chair again states the exact question that is before the Conference body.

Unanimous Consent—If it appears to the Chair that a motion or amendment is uncontroversial, it is proper for the Chair to ask if there is "any objection" to adopting the motion or amendment. If no objection is made, the Chair declares the motion or amendment adopted. If even one Member objects, however, the motion or amendment is subject to debate and vote.

Votes—Voting may be by voice, by a show of hands, by rising, or in the case of Election of Trustees, by ballot. If a quorum is present, the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the Members present is required for passage of an original main motion or amendment thereto.

A Member who "abstains" is choosing not to cast a vote. The effect of abstaining is to make it incrementally more difficult for a motion to pass; a Member may instead choose to leave the room before a vote is taken.

Rule 15 Point of Order

Upon noticing a breach of order that may do harm if allowed to pass, a Member gets the Chair's attention by calling out, "Point of Order." Without waiting for recognition, the Member immediately addresses the rules violation. The Chair then rules on the point of order, briefly giving reasons. No second is necessary and no vote is taken.

Rule 16 Point of Information

A Member may, at any point, get the Chair's attention by calling out, "Point of Information." The Member then inquires as to facts relevant to the business before the body, but not related to parliamentary

procedure. It is not used to give information; instead, one must wait to be recognized and make the informative point as part of debate. No second is necessary and no vote is taken.

Rule 17 Parliamentary Authority

The rules contained in the current edition of *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised* shall govern the Conference in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the bylaws of the Society and these standing rules.

Members desirous of a concise guide to the rules are directed to the current edition of *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised In Brief* (emphasis added). This practical handbook will be used at the Conference as needed.

Rule 18 Election of Trustees and Alternate Trustees

Trustees, also referred to as Directors, are elected using the Third Legacy Procedure to one two-year term with an option for two additional one-year terms. No Trustee may serve more than a four-year consecutive maximum. Alternate Trustees, also referred to as Alternate Directors, are elected to one-year terms as described below.

Trustees and Alternate Trustees must have a minimum of two years sobriety, which means abstinence from marijuana and all mind-altering substances including alcohol. A Trustee's name may be placed on public records of MA World Services and therefore Trustees and Alternate Trustees must be prepared to accept that his or her name may be revealed publicly.

A member must be present at the Conference to be elected. All qualified Conference attendees shall be eligible to be elected as Trustees or Alternate Trustees, subject to their right to withdraw their names from consideration, and provided they have substantially attended the Conference at which they are being considered. A quorum must be present, and two-thirds of the voting members present are needed to elect a Trustee.

a) Procedure

1. At the opening general session of the Conference, the names of all persons who meet the Trustee requirements are placed on an eligibility list, subject to view by all Members for the duration of the Conference.
2. Candidates may strike their name from the list at any time.
3. To vote, each voting Member writes the names of their chosen candidates (from the current eligibility list) on a secret ballot.
4. For each round of voting, voters must write the exact number of names as there are positions to be filled (i.e., if there are three Trustee positions available, Members must write the names of three candidates on their ballot). As positions are filled, the number of names required on each ballot will change.
5. Errors made by voters regarding item numbers 3 or 4 above shall require that the vote be discarded, and a new vote taken.
6. The final two candidates eliminated by these procedures will serve as Alternate Trustees. The person with the most votes will serve as the first Alternate; the other will be the second Alternate.

b) Voting Process

1. The first vote is taken. Any candidate receiving two-thirds or more of the votes is elected. Note that this vote may result in no one being elected.
2. A second vote is taken (if required). Any candidate receiving two-thirds or more votes is elected. If all available positions are not filled, “automatic withdrawals” begin. The names of candidates receiving one-fifth or fewer of the votes are removed from the eligibility list. However, the number of candidates remaining on the list must not be less than the number of positions still available plus one (to satisfy this requirement, candidates receiving the most votes are not automatically withdrawn; there may be cases where candidates who did not receive one-fifth of the votes remain on the list).
3. A third vote is taken (if required). Any candidate receiving two-thirds or more of the votes is elected. If all available positions are not filled, the names of candidates receiving one-third or fewer of the votes of the votes are removed from the eligibility list. However, the number of candidates remaining must not be less than the number of positions still available plus one (candidates who received the most votes are retained to satisfy this requirement; there may be cases where the candidates who did not receive one-third of the votes remain on the list).
4. A fourth vote is taken (if required). Any candidate receiving two-thirds or more of the votes is elected. If, at this point, positions remain unfilled, the names of candidates receiving one-third or fewer of the votes are removed from the eligibility list. However, the number of candidates remaining must not be less than the number of positions still available plus one (to satisfy this requirement, candidates receiving the most votes are not automatically withdrawn; there may be cases where candidates who did not receive one-third of the votes remain on the list). The Chairperson then entertains a motion to:
 - a. Stop balloting and draw remaining names from a hat. Positions are filled in the order that the names are drawn; or
 - b. Conduct a fifth and final vote. Any person receiving two-thirds or more of the votes is elected. If positions remain unfilled, remaining names go into a hat, and positions are filled in the order that the names are drawn.

Rule 19 Standing Committees

All Members are assigned to a Committee, except for the MA World Services President who is an ex-officio member of all Committees. Members are expected to continue their Committee participation throughout the following year. The Committees and their responsibilities are:

a) Literature Committee

The Literature Committee is responsible for drafting and recommending for approval all of Marijuana Anonymous' literature and media. Good quality literature is one of the most important service responsibilities of MA. The Literature Committee must obtain and approve a proof prior to publication. New Conference Approved Literature and media should be forwarded to A New Leaf Publications in a timely manner. The Committee is chaired by the Trustee responsible for Literature or appointee.

b) Finance Committee

The Finance Committee is charged with the responsibility of organizing the financial affairs of Marijuana Anonymous World Services. The committee drafts an annual budget and recommends other financial priorities for MA World Services. The Committee also supervises the work during the year of the MA World Services Treasurer and the office staff. The Committee is chaired by the Trustee responsible for the Treasurer job or appointee.

c) Policies and Procedures Committee

The Policies and Procedures Committee is responsible for issues concerning the structure and organization of Marijuana Anonymous World Service. The Policies and Procedures Committee debates and recommends changes in the structure of MA. The committee also considers the relationship between MA, MA World Services, and the legal rights and obligations imposed by the communities in which MA exists. The Policies and Procedures Committee is also responsible for the Service Manual, and all other documents which affect the organization and structure of Marijuana Anonymous. The Committee is chaired by the Trustee responsible for Policies and Procedures or appointee.

d) Hospitals and Institutions Committee

The H&I Committee is responsible for setting forth guidelines to districts on service at hospitals and institutions. This includes review of the H&I Handbook, related pamphlets and literature, helping districts establish H&I committees and more effectively carry the message of MA to the marijuana addict who is confined, in treatment, or has no other way of hearing our message. The Committee is chaired by the Trustee responsible for Hospitals and Institutions or appointee.

e) Public Information Committee

The PI Committee is charged with setting forth the guidelines to the districts on organizing and maintaining MA's outreach to the general community. The function of this committee includes creating and recommending for approval: Public Information manual, public service announcements and guidelines to be used by district PI committees as well as the MA World Services Administrator when communicating with the public at-large. The Committee is chaired by the Trustee responsible for Public Information or appointee.

f) Conferences and Conventions Committee

The Conferences and Conventions Committee acts as liaison between previous, present and future host district conference and convention teams to facilitate communications, information sharing and collaboration. The Committee works closely with other responsible committees to distribute information (e.g. mawsconference.org), develop an information repository and related tasks such as online registration, budget development, and district support. The Committee bears primary responsibility for developing and implementing remote conference attendance and voting, a project which was authorized at the 2013 Conference. The Committee is chaired by the Trustee responsible for Conferences and Conventions or appointee.

g) Internet Committee

The Internet Committee's responsibility is to serve all of MA World Services' Internet-related functions and to investigate and develop ways to carry the message of recovery to marijuana addicts worldwide. The Committee is chaired by the Trustee responsible for Internet or appointee.

h) Outreach Committee

The Outreach Committee supports the primary purpose of carrying the message of recovery to marijuana addicts by facilitating correspondence with meetings and districts throughout the world. The committee will continue to facilitate international growth and connection through communication. The function of this committee includes investigating and developing ways to carry the message of recovery to marijuana addicts worldwide and to ensure that meetings and districts are aware of the support made available by MA World Services. The Committee is Chaired by the Trustee responsible for Outreach or appointee.

Guidelines for Conference Motions, Recommendations, and Reports

MOTION: A proposal for action

Motions are brought to the floor, discussed, and voted on by the conference body in General Session. Committees may submit motions that arise out of their committee business. Items that generate great debate or have not been resolved by committees are often brought forward to the conference body. Districts and MA members may also submit motions for consideration by the Conference.

Examples of motions:

Motion to accept the 2004 MA World Services budget as written.

Motion to amend the Service Manual, Chapter XX, p x, to add the following at the end of Item 11: “when Conference recommendations are quoted or summarized outside the Conference minutes, the source or presenter of the recommendation shall be prominently identified.”

RECOMMENDATION: Presented as deserving acceptance or trial

Recommendations are offered by committees. If no action is required of the conference body, a recommendation can simply be made during a committee report. If action on a specific issue is sought, the committee should submit a recommendation in the form of a motion.

When citing recommendations, it is imperative to attribute who made the recommendation and under what circumstances to avoid misuse or assumptions that the recommendation represents the conscience of the conference body, when, in fact, it may not.

Example of a recommendation in a report:

Recommendation from P&P Committee: Delegates present minutes of MA World Services Conference to their district.

Example of a recommendation in a motion:

Motion to recommend that meetings add the “Break the Buck Barrier” reading to their format.

REPORT: A detailed account of what occurred and was discussed

Reports inform the General Session of what issues were discussed and voted on in committee. They do not require action by the General Session.

Example of a report:

Finance committee voted to raise the price of chips to \$0.35 to help cover increased costs of sales tax and shipping chips.

Marijuana Anonymous World Services

2017 Conference Agenda Items

2017 - Item A

Title: Denver, Colorado, Request to Become an MA District

Submitted by: Denver Marijuana Anonymous District Members

Point of contact: Nick D., Denver, Colorado, District Delegate

Background/Origin: In the early 1990's, Denver, Colorado, Marijuana Anonymous was formed by a handful of recovering marijuana addicts who decided to start an MA meeting so one addict can help another addict. They contacted MA World Services and received the necessary start up information, literature, where to purchase chips and guidance to coordinate an initial MA meeting.

In the early stages, there was a great deal of organizational legwork to locate a meeting place, gain a reasonable understanding of the MA World Services approved meeting format, recognize and reinforce the 12 Steps and 12 Traditions and follow the guidelines established by MA World Services. The first MA group was housed at the Unity Church in Denver and today remains at the same location. This venue thrives and we continue to hold 2 of our weekly meetings there.

Initially, there was only one meeting that was held on Sunday night from 5:30 to 6:30 AM. The Fellowship attendance was initially nominal but as word spread through other 12 step programs, there was a gradual increase in participation. Within a short time period, a second MA meeting night was formed on Thursday nights. This meeting continues to be held at the Unity Church from 7:30–8:30 PM.

Consequently, other meeting nights were established. There was a Wednesday MA from 5:00-6:00 PM., an MA Women's Only Meeting and MA meetings that were either open or closed. In the early days, some of these meetings flourished for several months and even years and not surprisingly, some eventually disbanded. The growth process was sketchy at first but then good things began to happen.

Currently, Denver MA has prospered and we have meetings 5 times weekly and there are 2 meeting nights in Boulder. Attendance exceeds 60 members within the MA Fellowship. All meeting nights are self supporting, they all hold monthly group conscious meetings, adhere to the 7th tradition and have individualized formats that were decided at their individual group conscious.

We also are proud to say that MA has Quarterly Speaker Meetings in which an addict's story is told detailing their experience, strength and hope. These speaker meetings are well attended and received by the Fellowship.

In October 2014, Denver Marijuana Anonymous had their initial meeting to discuss organizing a District. There are no other Districts in Colorado. We elected the District Officers required by MA World Services. The District Secretary maintains detailed monthly meeting notes. Each meeting

night has representation at the District level by their respective General Service Representatives (GSR's).

The MA meetings are held the second Sunday of each month and we follow the guidelines established in the MA World Services handbook. There is generally a 70 to 100% quorum at each monthly meeting. This allows us to address motions and pass information through the GSR's to their respective meeting nights.

Over the several meeting months, the Denver District has formulated a Marijuana Anonymous website (Colorado MA.org), constituted a formal bank account and purchased an MA post office box so we can receive information and other materials. The website is regularly updated by seasoned members of the Fellowship who have extensive experience in website design. The website provides essential information related to meetings, days, times, links to MA World Services and other related 12 step programs. Newcomers and regular Fellowship members use our website to ascertain and distribute useful information. The Fellowship has noticed that newcomers comment that they have come to meetings because of the information posted on our website.

We have District and Sub Committee reports from H & I, District Treasurer, Website Committee, Marijuana Anonymous Hotline and Public Information. We also have service positions for other members who assist the District in making coffee, cleaning the meeting room and sundry support.

The MA bank account has oversight by our Treasurer who maintains strict record keeping of our prudent reserve and expenditures detailing operating costs. The District Secretary provides minutes to all Fellowship members, Delegates and GSR's. The District is self supporting, relying on 7th tradition contributions to maintain solvency. The District is committed to support MA World Services with financial contributions.

The meetings are reflective of a vast demographic groupings comprised of individuals from different walks of life, professions and interests. Sobriety ranges from minutes or hours to several decades. We welcome all individuals regardless of race, color, creed, religious affiliation or sexual orientation. The Fellowship age ranges from teenagers to senior citizens.

We feel the urgency to be recognized as a District within MA World Services. As you are aware, Colorado law allows individuals to access marijuana dispensaries for medical and recreational use. Colorado has more marijuana dispensaries than Starbucks Coffee. This is alarming. As a result, the Fellowship has been growing in leaps and bounds as a consequence of the legalization of marijuana in Colorado.

Here is Denver Marijuana Anonymous' contact information:

coloradoma@gmail.com

Address: Colorado MA P.O. Box 10031 Denver, CO. 80250

Telephone-303-607-7516

In conclusion, Denver Marijuana Anonymous is requesting consideration to become a formal District within the MA World Services community. Denver Marijuana Anonymous would be

pleased to be recognized and placed on the agenda at the MA World Services January 2017 Annual Convention. We can say with confidence that Denver MA satisfies all necessary requirements to be granted District approval.

The Denver MA Delegates are planning to attend the 2017 Conference in Orange County in May 2017. Denver MA Delegates are also anticipating attendance at the MA World Services 2017 Convention. If fiscal limitations prevent the Delegates from attending the Conference, MA World Services will need to contact the Delegates by phone or Skype. The Delegates will be in contact with the Trustees prior to the Conference if our attendance is not possible.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact any District Officers- Nick D (Delegate) at 720-936-4853, Ken W (District Chair) at 303-901-6329 or Marcus W (District Vice-Chair) at 720-220-9692.

MA World Services can send the Denver District e-mail to coloradoma@gmail.com.

MOTION:

That Denver, Colorado, be accepted as an official MA District. [*end of motion*]

2017 - Item B

Title: Request to become a new District of Marijuana Anonymous World Services, and to be known as the “New England” District.

Submitted by: Rachel C. on behalf of MA Groups of New England

Background/Origin: New England Marijuana Anonymous meetings have been growing steadily; and, as such, a group of members decided to come together and build a regional district that began in May 2016. The goal is to connect as an MA community in Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Vermont, New Hampshire, and Maine. These states are a diverse mix of urban and rural settings, as New England spans a geographic size equivalent to Washington State, and the desire was to anchor as a community in the region. Our main hub for DSC meetings is in the Boston-area.

Currently there are six meetings which are members of the New England MA District; four in Massachusetts, one in Rhode Island and one in New Hampshire. The District has ongoing outreach to three Vermont meetings, and a second New Hampshire meeting. The New England District Service Committee believes that establishing a MA District will not only solidify the existing MA meetings in the region, but also foster MA growth in all New England states.

The District maintains monthly DSC meetings with GSR's from each of our six meetings attending regularly, as well as maintaining a DSC Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary and Treasurer. The District has the following subcommittee chair positions: Literature, Outreach, Hospitals and Institutions, Internet and Correspondence, Events and Fundraising, and Chips. We have met as a group with most in person, or dialing in, every month since May 2016. An agenda is circulated prior to the meeting, and the DSC meeting format as put forth in the MA World Services service manual is followed, including reading the MA Tradition of the month at the start of each meeting to foster mindful adherence to our guiding principles.

DSC Chairs share written reports for treasury, literature, events, and previous meeting minutes for review, which are later included with our Google Drive repository. The District maintains an email listserv for District Service members, as well as a Google Group for members.

The District has established its own bank account, website (newenglandma.org) and support email (info@newenglandma.org). The Literature Chair has created a New England MA meeting schedule and New England MA pamphlet. The District is also developing a GSR Training to help new GSR's to understand and engage in the inverted pyramid of service structure. The Literature and Chips positions began to service meetings in 2016, and they seek to be of service in terms of saving funds on shipping, and building community between meetings and district. This connection will be especially helpful for the larger New England network, as the District aims to benefit these meetings.

Events are designed to be regionally inclusive, which is an ongoing goal for 2017 to build fellowship around our New England network. The format of events include an MA meeting and Seventh Tradition used for the District. In 2016 we had: a summer potluck, a fall foliage hike in New Hampshire, and a Holiday potluck to be supportive during a time that can be challenging for

recovering potheads. A survey was circulated to get input on how best to design the events. Opportunity to be of service and to collaborate in the events is a part of the mission. In 2017, some events on the roster include a game night, more potlucks, and repeating “traditional” events from 2016 to build familiarity, community, and ease social expectations. There will also be more events around New England, and road trips to visit our neighbors. Feedback has been supportive. The district has engaged in active fundraising campaigns and will continue to do so.

The H&I Committee consistently keeps a twice a month commitment at McLean Hospital, a highly regarded institution that is the largest psychiatric facility of Harvard Medical School. McLean is located in Belmont, Massachusetts, and an MA meeting is brought in by District MA members to an inpatient addiction recovery program. Literature, purchased through District, has provided the H & I committee with MA pamphlets for sharing and display at McLean in an area where other fellowships leave materials.

New England MA fully understands the privileges and responsibilities of becoming a District. Furthermore, New England MA understands the role of being fully self-supporting including support of MA World Services, and is committed and willing to do so. New England is ready and qualified to become an official District of MA World Services.

Eligibility factors currently met:

Groups:

- o Tues., Pawtucket, RI: “Bored No More”
- o Wed., Manchester, NH: “Similarity and Diversity Group”
- o Thurs., Cambridge, MA: “Stomp on the Roaches”
- o Fri., Watertown, MA: “Weapons of Grass Destruction”
- o Sat., Arlington, MA: “Wake and Don’t Bake”
- o Sun., Somerville, MA: “Women in SobrieTea”

- **Regular attendees amongst groups:** over the suggested 60
- **Geographic location:** closest is District 8 in New York and District 15 in Long Island
- **Monthly meetings:** We regularly meet the 70% quorum attendance
- **DSC Unity:** We have the ability to operate the DSC meeting as an entity and exhibit unity within.
- **MA World Services support:** We are able to be self-supporting and to support MA World Services.
- **Regional, social, cultural division needs:** We strive to create events that bring members together with a great mix of cultural and regional differences between the New England states. We also address issues of geographical distance and weather by providing options for remote attendance and communication at the DSC meeting.

MOTION:

That New England MA be accepted as an official district of MA World Services. The new District of Marijuana Anonymous will represent the New England region of: Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New Hampshire, Maine, Vermont, and Connecticut. The motion includes the appropriate District numerical assignment, in addition to the wording ‘New England’ as part of the name.

[end of motion]

2017 - Item C

Title: Add Service Sponsorship to each Trustee Job Description

Submitted by: Drift M., Outreach Trustee

Background/Origin: Currently none of the MA World Services Trustee job descriptions in the Service Manual state that the outgoing Trustee should provide Service Sponsorship to the incoming Trustee of the corresponding position.

The Service Manual describes the importance of Service Sponsorship as the following:

“Service sponsorship can be defined as one marijuana addict who has made some progress in performance in service sharing this experience with another marijuana addict who is just starting the journey.... Service sponsorship is customarily provided to a newly elected trusted servant by the individual who previously held the same position. The service sponsor is a resource to learn the responsibilities of performing service work as well as the guiding principles involved, including The Three Legacies of Recovery, Unity and Service, The Twelve Traditions, The Twelve Concepts and the principle of rotation.... With this knowledge, the individual is able to share their vision with others and ensure the future of MA.” (Ch. 3, page 4).

Communicating the expectation that service sponsorship is part of fulfilling the job of a World Services Trustee will help to foster more effective transitions, continuation of projects and the overall success of MA World service.

MOTION:

That the following be added to each MA World Services Trustee Job Description as the last numbered job duty, filling in the blank line with the corresponding Trustee position, (ex: Internet Trustee, President Trustee, etc.):

“Proactively provide service sponsorship, support and guidance to the incoming _____ Trustee to foster an effective transition.” [*end of motion*]

2017 - Item D

Title: Establish a World Services Correspondence Committee

Submitted by: The MA World Services Outreach Committee

Point of Contact: Drift M., Outreach Trustee:

outreach@marijuana-anonymous.org

Background/Origin: MA World Services Outreach duties and responsibilities have evolved over the course of MA's history:

- 1991 - 800 Number Coordinator & standalone 800 Number Committee established.
- 1993 - 800 Number becomes responsibility of the Office Manager.
- 1994 - 800 Number becomes a rotating responsibility of the District Delegates.
- 1996 - Outreach Coordinator position established.
- 1997 - Outreach Coordinator position dissolved.
- 1997 - New Meeting Outreach Trustee established.
- 2000 - Online Services Trustee established.
- 2003 - Office Manager entrusted to respond to the 800 Number and the website.
- 2006 - Global Outreach Trustee established.
- 2009 - New Meeting Outreach Trustee and the Global Outreach Trustee positions combined.
- 2016 - 800 Number and email/mobile app support requests becomes an Outreach duty.

Over the years, the duties and responsibilities of the 800 phone line has moved from Delegates, to Districts, to the MA World Services Administrator and currently with the Outreach Committee. In 2016, the Conference body passed Motion 16 which added one bullet point to the Outreach Trustee's Job Description, which was: "2) Take responsibility of the Marijuana Anonymous 800 number and email support requests to ensure those in need of help are responded to promptly." The current Outreach Committee believes this addition greatly reduces the type of direct support and proactive development the Outreach Committee can provide to MA's meetings and Districts.

Per the Service Manual, the World Services Outreach Committee "supports the primary purpose of carrying the message of recovery to marijuana addicts by facilitating correspondence with meetings and districts throughout the world. The committee will continue to facilitate international growth and connection through communication. The function of this committee includes investigating and developing ways to carry the message of recovery to marijuana addicts worldwide and to ensure that meetings and districts are aware of the support made available by MA World Services" (Part IV, Ch. 22, pg. 61).

The Service Manual clearly states the important need of providing singular focused service work for meetings and Districts. Throughout the years, the duties of Outreach have continued to be added upon because outreach is broad and expansive in the service needed. Indeed, at one point in

MA World Services history there was a New Meeting Outreach Trustee, an Online Services Trustee (coordinated support to online members and meetings), and a Global Outreach Trustee. This spotlights how much opportunity and need there is to conduct outreach and correspondence service work. One committee cannot do it alone.

One goal of the Outreach Committee is to assist meetings and Districts solving problems that may impede their growth or threaten their survival. Another is to help meetings and Districts overcome many kinds of isolation and barriers by encouraging increased knowledge, contact, and exposure to MA as a whole and to the MA service structure. The amount of time, care and help the Outreach Committee can provide is stunted due to the amount of work that has been placed on the Outreach Committee to respond to MA World Services correspondence. Important work has not been attended to, such as supporting and maintaining contact with domestic and non-US meetings, supporting translation of our literature, and working alongside new or struggling meetings and Districts. In the last couple of years we have seen a loss of contact and participation from our meetings and Districts.

- The last time MA World Services Outreach heard from MA in Japan was April of 2015.
- No record could be located of the last time MA World Services Outreach heard from MA in France.
- MA in Iceland has been translating literature without ongoing MA World Services assistance or support.
- MA World Services Outreach last heard from MA New Zealand in August of 2014.
- The South Africa MA meeting has folded.
- The Rome, Italy, MA meeting has folded.
- The last year that District 16 Australia sent a Delegate report to the Conference was 2013.
- The last year that District 16 Australia attended the Conference via video was 2010. They have never sent a Delegate to attend in person.
- The last year that District 17 Denmark sent a Delegate report to the Conference was 2012.
- District 17 Denmark has never attended the Conference remotely or in person.
- District 9 dissolved and folded into District 3 in 2009.
- District 10 dissolved in January 2016.
- District 1 is struggling and is down to only two meetings.
- District 15 is down to only three meetings.
- District 18 is struggling and is down to only four meetings.

Currently Districts 1 and 15 no longer meet the recommended eligibility requirements of having at least 4 meetings a week to be an MA District. MA World Services has a great need and responsibility to provide direct and ongoing support to its meetings and Districts. Indeed, this is the job description for the World Services Outreach Committee. The Outreach Committee believes that the Conference body must better direct services to supporting our meetings and Districts. Every time we lose touch with, or fail to foster and maintain communication and relationships with meetings and Districts we put our fellowship as a whole at risk. We also risk having more Districts fold. What percentage of the fellowship of MA continues to face isolation from MA World

Services and the MA service structure and resources? The Outreach Committee was developed to foster greater participation, communication, and unity in relation to World Services and our meetings and Districts. As MA continues to grow, if we do not establish an infrastructure for maintaining contact and support to our meetings and Districts, how will we remain unified?

In recent history, with correspondence shifting from the MA World Services Administrator to the Outreach Committee, almost all of the work that the Outreach Trustee and Committee can achieve is responding to the MA World Services 800 phone line and email support requests, very little of which actually involves communication with and directing support towards our meetings and Districts around the world. Correspondence is absolutely important and it deserves its own dedicated Committee and Trustee to facilitate that work. Correspondence service should not come at the price of, or undermine, the goals and work of the Outreach Committee. Correspondence not directly related to supporting meetings and Districts should be responded to by a new World Service committee.

The Outreach Committee values the important role of a recovering marijuana addict connecting with a marijuana addict who still suffers. It is incredibly rewarding service work. The Outreach Committee recommends that the Conference body create a Correspondence Committee which can continue to provide support to marijuana addicts who contact MA World Services who are struggling or in need of MA resources, while also allowing the Outreach Committee to return to focus on its primary duty to support MA's meetings and Districts. The time to affirm and approve a standalone World Services Correspondence Committee is overdue.

The addition of a Correspondence Committee will free up and foster the service work that the Outreach Committee can provide to MA meetings and Districts. This includes fostering literature translation, maintaining relationships with meetings and Districts who are isolated from the MA Service Structure, supporting struggling meetings and Districts, supporting non-US Delegates to participate in MA World Services business matters, maintaining an accurate meeting contact database, and much more. Our meetings and Districts need singularly focused support from MA World Services. This important work fosters MA unity, a stronger participation in MA group conscious work, and a direct link between MA World Services and the members, groups and Districts we are privileged and responsible to serve.

Cost of change: None.

MOTION:

Create a standing Correspondence Committee to the MA World Services structure of committees; that the Secretary Trustee be responsible for facilitating the work of the Correspondence Committee including facilitating responses to the 800 helpline and email correspondence which request support (not general information) and other correspondence duties. *[end of motion]*

2017 - Item E

Title: Increase Number of Trustees to Eleven,
and Alternates to Three

Submitted by: Drift M., Outreach Trustee

Background/Origin: MA World Services currently has eight World Service Committees and nine Trustee positions. The main work for seven out of nine Trustees is to facilitate one of the World Services Committees. The two remaining trustees are the Secretary and the President. The designation of nine trustees is assigned within the MA World Services Bylaws. There was a time when nine Trustees was an adequate appropriation to fully serve the work of the board, MA World Services committees and our fellowship we are responsible to serve. In recent years, MA World Services has seen the creation of the standalone Hospitals and Institutions committee. While the work of World Services has expanded, our number of Trustees has not. Currently, the Trustee Board must assign one Trustee to facilitate the work of two jobs. For the 2016-2017 year, the Secretary Trustee also carried the job of the Conferences and Conventions Trustee.

MA's World Services Committees ought to have a trustee who is appointed to solely facilitate and be dedicated to the work of one World Services job or committee. This change is needed, not only to better foster the work of the Conferences and Conventions committee but to also provide greater support to our District Hosts who are charged to facilitate an *incredible* amount of service work for our annual Conference and Convention. This update is also important for the allocation of standalone Trustees when MA World Services further creates committees in the future. Our current language of the MA World Services Bylaws constricts how service work can be facilitated and delegated. In Chapter 21 of the MA World Services Service Manual, there are currently 10 Trustee job descriptions. The eleventh Trustee position would be an "at-large" position to serve in the most needed areas as directed by the President Trustee, such as a direct link between MA World Services and our Delegate body.

It is probable that in the future as MA grows additional committees will be added as well. Each current, and future committee, is charged with important and necessary work to support the overall function and health of MA World Services and MA members, groups and Districts around the world. Each Trustee should be responsible for facilitating a singular World Services Committee or job, as each are equally important.

Under Article VIII, Section 2 of the MA World Services Bylaws, it currently states that "the authorized number of directors [trustees] shall be nine." Currently 7 of the MA World Services Committees have a dedicated corresponding Trustee; Finance (MA World Services Treasurer), Outreach (Outreach Trustee), Public Information (PI Trustee), Hospitals and Institutions (H&I Trustee), Policies and Procedures (P&P Trustee), Literature (Literature Trustee) and Internet (Internet Trustee). The remaining two MA World Services trustee positions are the Secretary and the President whose work is focused on facilitating the MA World Services board and conference functions.

It is time that the MA World Services Conference Body amend the language of the Bylaws so the MA World Services board can be allocated enough Trustees to fully support the work that each job is responsible for. By approving such an amendment, each committee now, and any in the future, will have more opportunity to produce effective work, which in turn will benefit MA members, groups, Districts and MA as a whole.

Article XII of the Bylaws states: “New Bylaws may be adopted or these Bylaws may be amended or repealed by approval of the members or their proxies, or by written assent of these persons. The Bylaws may be amended by a vote of two-thirds of all the voting members.” Article V of the Bylaws defines voting members as: “Directors of this corporation, who shall also be known as the trustees; Duly-elected and qualified voting delegates to the World Conference of the Society of Marijuana Anonymous, as defined in The Conference Charter of Marijuana Anonymous; and Appointed or elected Marijuana Anonymous World Service committee heads and coordinators.” As such, the Conference body is empowered to amend the Bylaws by a 2/3 passing margin at the annual Conference gathering when the body deems it necessary.

Cost of change: There will be an additional transportation cost of sending the added Trustee positions to the World Services Conference. This cost is estimated to be between \$700-1,000 per added position.

MOTION:

That the first sentence of Article VIII, Section 2, of the Bylaws of Marijuana Anonymous World Services in the Service Manual (Ch. 24, pg. 77) be amended:

From: The authorized number of directors shall be nine (9).

To: The authorized number of directors shall be eleven (11).

and

That Article VII, Section 2 of the Bylaws of Marijuana Anonymous World Services in the Service Manual (Ch.24, pg. 77) be amended:

From: First and second alternate Directors shall be elected at the annual meeting in the same manner as Directors and shall be designated as such.

To: First, second and third alternate Directors shall be elected at the annual meeting in the same manner as Directors and shall be designated as such.

and

That Rule 18 6.a of the Standing Rules of the MA World Services Conference be revised:

From: The final two candidates eliminated by these procedures will serve as Alternate Trustees. The person with the most votes will serve as the first Alternate; the other will be the second Alternate.

To: The final three candidates eliminated by these procedures will serve as Alternate Trustees. [*end of motion*]

2017 - Item F

Title: Explore transfer of ANLP conference-approved literature publishing responsibilities to Hazelden Publishing

Submitted by: District 2

Background/Origin: A New Leaf Publications (ANLP) currently bears responsibility for the publication and distribution of all MA publications, including the monthly newsletter *A New Leaf*.

For most of the 2016-2017 conference work cycle, ANLP was not fulfilling its responsibilities to publish *A New Leaf* newsletter on a monthly basis nor fulfill LwH orders. Additionally, they ran out of 2nd edition LwH prior to having published the 3rd edition.

Hazelden Publishing, an established publisher, has inquired about publishing MA literature. Turning over responsibility for publishing and selling *Life with Hope* and the associated workbook would help ensure that critical MA literature is published in a timely fashion and available to members.

MOTION:

Direct MAWS Literature Committee to set up a subcommittee which will investigate with Hazelden the transfer of publishing and distribution responsibility for *Life with Hope*, the *Life with Hope Workbook*, and future conference-approved books (excluding pamphlets and ANL newsletter) to Hazelden. The committee shall present the possible options and terms to the 2018 MAWS conference. [*end of motion*]

2017 - Item G

Title: Solicit New Stories, and Update or Allow Rewrites of Existing *Life with Hope* Stories

Submitted by: District 2

Background: The 15 stories in the second edition of our *Life with Hope* book were written over 20 years ago. Times have changed. The lives of the story writers have changed – some in dramatic ways.

District 2 believes that the fourth edition of *Life with Hope* would benefit from updates to the original stories. Authors could be given the option to add a “flash forward” update or re-write the original story in either case reflecting a deeper understanding of their own recovery. A fourth edition could also add new stories written by fellows who have had much more recent experience with marijuana. Stories might discuss experience with the drug during the time since the medical marijuana movement has essentially decriminalized its use.

The original AA Big Book was written by the first 100 recovering alcoholics—people who experienced devastating, low-bottom consequences of their addiction. At some point, AA realized that people could get into recovery without hitting a low-bottom and decided to add stories to the Big Book that reflected the experience of those with higher-bottoms. Just as AA added more stories to make it relevant to a broader spectrum of alcoholics, MA can add stories that new members could relate to better. These stories could reflect the modern realities of pot clubs, medical marijuana cards, and the legal recreational use of pot in a growing number of states.

Meetings that use *Life with Hope* story-discussion as a meeting format will benefit from the addition of new stories. They may also enjoy the revision of or new material in the older stories.

From story writing to printing of a new edition could take several years, thus, work on this project should begin as soon as possible.

MOTION:

Prioritize soliciting new stories and the updating of existing stories for inclusion in the 4th Edition of LwH. [*end of motion*]

Note from the Agenda Committee on Estimated Cost: Relatively minimal costs for distributing promotional materials encouraging new submissions, possible increase in page volume if new stories are added and all current stories remain, as well as service hours devoted to this work.

2017 - Item H

Title: MA World Services Conference Archive

Submitted by: Drift M., Outreach Trustee

Background/Origin: Upon reviewing past MA World Services Conference minutes, it became apparent that a comprehensive Conference motions archive did not exist. A document titled, “Conference Motions to 2011” does exist but has not been kept updated or verified. Maintaining a World Services Conference archive of integrity and legitimacy is imperative to protect and honor our Twelve Concepts of Service.

Concept 2: “The ultimate authority and responsibility for service in Marijuana Anonymous is the collective conscience of the groups.”

Concept 5: “Group conscience is the spiritual means by which service decisions are made.”

Concept 10: “The integrity of our service structure depends on continued unity of Marijuana Anonymous groups, districts, and World Services through effective communication.”

Rather than relying upon personal memory or verbal accounts of Conference Approved items, a comprehensive and full Conference Archive should be created, utilized, and kept up-to-date. MA World Services and ANLP trusted servants need an effective tool to ensure that the standing group conscience of our voting members in the history of the MA World Services Conference, is adhered to. Matters of unity, bylaws, literature, procedure and other business items are decided at the annual MA World Services Conference. MA as a whole would benefit from a Conference Archive and procedure for maintaining it.

This writer has worked over the past year to compile a beginning draft of a MA World Services Conference Archive. Not only would a comprehensive Conference Archive aid the MA World Services trusted servants utilizing a record to refer to in making decisions between Conferences, this archive would benefit future Conference bodies, as well as honor and protect a crucial part of MA’s history.

MOTION:

That the Policies and Procedures Trustee and Committee be tasked to take over the Conference Motions Archive started by this writer; that the said Trustee and Committee be tasked to establish an effective layout and organizational method of the MA World Services Conference Archive; that the said Trustee and Committee be tasked to verify and complete a MAWS Conference Archive that includes all Conference passing motions, including the 2017 Conference; that the said Trustee and Committee complete this work and submit it to the 2018 Conference Body for consideration for conference approval; that the said Trustee and Committee provide a report of their work, methods, and recommendations at the 2018 Conference, including which service position is best to maintain this Archive. [end of motion]

2017 - Item I

Title: MA World Services Tax ID Number Use Policy
Be Explicitly Followed

Submitted By: Anonymous

Background/Origin: From the MA World Services Service Manual:

“Although emphasis is placed on the fact that MA has ‘no formal organization’, there are jobs that must be done in order for the business of Marijuana Anonymous to be taken care of. These are tasks that must be completed at the district level so that MAWS can accomplish its obligations. It is imperative that ALL of the accounting for ALL of the districts be done properly for tax purposes. MAWS is a legal corporation as well as a twelve step program and in order to maintain our tax exempt status we must maintain accurate, auditable records. If the District is using the MAWS Tax ID Number, each month a copy of the District’s bank statements and reconciliation of the statements, as well as the completed “Treasurer Report to District and World Service(s)” must be sent to the MAWS Treasurer. This will become part of the permanent records for each district. A District’s right to use the MAWS Tax ID number will be revoked should said district fail to provide the required monthly treasurer reports and reconciled bank statements to the MAWS Treasurer and/or Accountant within 35 days of the end of the applicable month. The MAWS Finance Committee and /or Treasurer will send a written notice of proposed revocation of permission to use the MAWS Tax ID number to the non-compliant district by registered or certified mail and will provide a 30 day period in which the district may respond by bringing itself into compliance or show evidence of existing compliance to the MAWS Board of Trustees.”

For decades, many Districts who use the MA World Services Tax ID number continue to submit their financial records very late, some submitting a year’s worth of records all at once. This lack of compliance puts MA World Services at risk and it is time for MA World Services to follow the policy that the fellowship has affirmed repeatedly throughout our Conference history. For many years, the Finance Committee and the Treasurer Trustee have addressed this repeated offense during the Conference to no avail for a major shift in compliance. This lack of financial compliance should be taken seriously. This pattern has burdened the MA World Services Finance Committee, Treasurer and accountant for far too long.

MOTION:

For the health and welfare of MA World Services, that the MAWS Finance Committee and/or MAWS Treasurer explicitly uphold and follow the MAWS Tax ID number use policy when a District is non-compliant in submitting monthly financial records: “A District’s right to use the MAWS Tax ID number will be revoked should said district fail to provide the required monthly treasurer reports and reconciled bank statements to the MAWS Treasurer and/or Accountant within 35 days of the end of the applicable month. The MAWS Finance Committee and /or Treasurer will send a written notice of proposed revocation of permission to use the MAWS Tax ID number to the non-compliant district by registered or certified mail and will provide a 30 day period in which the district may respond by bringing itself into compliance or show evidence of existing compliance to the MAWS Board of Trustees” (Service Manual 6.1, p. 36). [end of motion]

2017 - Item J

Title: “None of us are perfect”

Submitted By: MA meeting Lakewood Colorado

Point of Contact: GSR Leo B. (swigwater@outlook.com)

Background/Origin: The MA “How It Works” states, “Do not be discouraged; none of us are saints. Our program is not easy, but it is simple. We strive for progress, not perfection.”

We believe that the intention of Marijuana Anonymous is to be available to any and all who wish to recover from marijuana addiction. Tradition Three states that “the only requirement for membership is a desire to stop using marijuana.” Recently, the wording of the Preamble was changed from “fellowship of men and women” to “fellowship of people” so as not to alienate transgender people. We applaud you for the sensitivity to these people. Along the same lines, we would like to suggest another change. In the MA “How It Works”, we suggest changing “none of us are saints” to “none of us are perfect”, so as not to alienate Christians who are called “saints” in the Bible, their holy book. Two examples are Ephesians 1:1 “Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, to the saints who are at Ephesus and who are faithful in Christ Jesus” and Philippians 1:1 “Paul and Timothy, bond-servants of Christ Jesus, to all the saints in Christ Jesus who are in Philippi”. To make a blanket statement like “none of us are saints” may be offensive to a Christian who comes to MA for help! We believe “perfect” is what the original writers of “How It Works” meant by the word “saints.” Therefore, let us use “perfect” instead of a term that alienates Christians. We ask that the same sensitivity shown to the transgender community be shown to the Christian community. We want justice!

The 1989 Resolution of the Third Unity Conference of Marijuana Anonymous states that, “the General Service Conference of Marijuana Anonymous should become, as of this date, October 15, 1989, the guardian of the Traditions of Marijuana Anonymous”, and as such, this conference body should uphold the full meaning and intention of Tradition Three being inclusive of all who have a desire to stop using marijuana.

In *Life with Hope* on page 77 in the chapter on Tradition Three, it is written that “Tradition Three states that a member is a member if they have a desire to stop using marijuana. No matter who you are, where you came from, or what you did you cannot be denied membership in Marijuana Anonymous. To make any requirement other than a desire to stop using marijuana could mean that some addicts would be denied the gifts the program has to offer”.

The language of the MA “How It Works” sends a message out to the world, and MA has the opportunity to be fully inclusive and fully sensitive with its language use regarding who makes up our fellowship and who is welcome to join our fellowship—anyone with a desire to stop using marijuana.

Cost of change: None. No change will be made until the next scheduled printing of the MA “How It Works” and all MA literature containing the word “saints”. Districts and meetings are free to

incorporate the change into any readings if and when they choose. Service will be required of the Literature Committee, Internet Committee, ANLP and Policies and Procedures Committee to update their respective domains as soon as possible.

MOTION:

That MA revise the sentence “Do not be discouraged; none of us are saints” to “Do not be discouraged; none of us are perfect” in all of its locations within the MA How It Works, *Life with Hope*, *Life with Hope 12 Step Workbook*, all pamphlets, *A New Leaf* Newsletter, the service manual, website and all future MA publications.

From: “Do not be discouraged; none of us are saints.”

To: “Do not be discouraged; none of us are perfect.”

Located in the Service Manual:

Ch. 7, pg. 16, “How it Works”

Appendix 1, pg. 102, “How it Works”, H&I Handbook pg. 11

Appendix 4, pg. 132, Meeting Format - Spanish pg. 5, “How it Works”

Appendix 5, pg. 136, Meeting Format - French pg. 3, “How it Works” [*end of motion*]

2017 - Item K

Title: P&P Committee Investigate Standing Conference Approved Group Conscience on MA's Steps and Traditions

Submitted By: Drift M., Outreach Trustee

Background/Origin: The following references were found in the MA World Services document, "1989 – Unity Conference.pdf" in the MA World Services Google Drive. Upon review of past MA World Services Conference minutes, the following MA Steps and Traditions were recorded as such:

June 1989 Unity Conference

Step 1: "We admitted we were powerless over marijuana—that our lives had become unmanageable." *2/3 yes (recorded vote tally)*

October 1989 Unity Conference

Motion 8: Step 1: "We admitted we were powerless over marijuana—that our lives had become unmanageable." *16 yes, 1 no*

Motion 22: "As we understood God is to be italicized in any printed version of our steps. If this is not possible, the phrase should be underlined."
Unanimous (recorded vote tally)

October 1989 Unity Conference – Handwritten in top right corner:

"Debi's Minutes (turned in late)"

Motion 2: Change Step 1 to read: "We admitted we were powerless over marijuana and that our lives had become unmanageable."
Passed 16 for, 1 against

Motion 6: Change the second part of Step 3 to read: "as we understood God."
Passed 13 for, 2 against, 1 abstain

Motion 18: "As we understood God" is to be italicized in any material, if this is not possible, the phrase is to be underlined."
Unanimous (recorded vote tally)

MOTION:

That the Policies and Procedures Committee be tasked to investigate and report to the 2018 Conference body the standing conference approved version of our Twelve Steps; that the Policies and Procedures Committee submit recommendations, and/or appropriate motions to the Conference body to ensure that wherever MA's Twelve Steps are published, in print and online, that there is consistency and adherence to the standing conference approved vote on these items.
[end of motion]

2017 - Item L

Title: Revise ANLP Charter

Submitted By: District 2

Background/Origin: The ANLP Charter—added to the Service Manual in 1998—is written to establish ANLP simultaneously as a part of and yet separate from MA World Services. It is our understanding that the reasons for the separateness were two-fold: (1) to keep MA World Services from micromanaging and (2) to allow for any potential profits drawn by ANLP to not threaten MA World Services’ non-profit status. In attempting to define this balance (separate and together) the ANLP Charter speaks very little to the functional relationship between the two entities and lacks certain checks and balances. The unfortunate impact of these well-intentioned choices includes the potential for production disruptions over which MA World Services has no official recourse. Furthermore, without actually legally establishing ANLP as its own corporation, their income is inevitably counted under MA World Services; in other words, from a legal & tax point of view, their income is not separate from MA World Services finances.

Additionally, the wording and organization of the Charter can be confusing and ambiguous: for example, the order is not particularly intuitive—neglecting to outline ANLP’s structure clearly—and using the phrase “the board” to refer to the ANLP board without ever actually naming ANLP’s governing body as such.

MOTION:

The Policies and Procedures Committee, in collaboration with the ANLP board, shall be directed to rewrite the ANLP Charter and present a draft to the 2018 MAWS Conference.

The ANLP Charter will be revised explicitly making ANLP accountable to the MAWS Board. The revision will, at the very least, provide a way for MAWS’ Board to remove members of the ANLP Board in the event that there are not three (3) ANLP board members available to make a recommendation; MAWS would also be provided the opportunity to step in whenever ANLP is not fulfilling its responsibilities (e.g. filling editor positions and any other actions or lack of which may cause undue stagnation in the publishing of any and all MAWS literature).

This revision gives MAWS management authority as needed over ANLP but will not give MAWS editorial control over the content or format of ANLP publications. “As needed” would be defined as agreed upon by at least four (4) of the MAWS Trustees. [*end of motion*]

Note from the Agenda Committee:

MA World Services Bylaws, Article 8, Section 1b states:

- (B) Specific powers. Without prejudice to these general powers and subject to the same limitations, the directors shall have the power to:
 - (i) Select and remove all agents and employees of the corporation; prescribe any powers and duties for them that are consistent with law, with the articles of incorporation and with these bylaws; and fix their compensation

2016 MA World Services Conference Minutes

The 2016 Conference Minutes are part of the Consent Agenda to be considered first thing in the morning, day 1, at the 2017 Conference. Please use the link/URL below to review the minutes prior to the conference as there will not be time to read them at the conference:

tiny.cc/MAconf2016minutes



Note: If you know of someone who should be getting a copy of Conference-related emails but has not, please notify agenda@mawsconference.org.
