

Sunday OA HOW December Business Meeting - January 28, 2018

Meeting Coordinator: Molly C.

Secretary: Judy G.

1. **Attendance:** Jenny C. MD; Molly NC; Dana D. FL; Alyson NY; Judy G. WA, Nikki NY; Deborah R. MI; Marilyn, NH; Deborah K., VA, Betty, MD, Rie, NJ

2. Minutes from December meeting approved

3. Old Business (Carried Over from Last Meeting)

a) *Service Positions.* Some service positions still need filling
Speaker Seeker
Leader Seeker
Moderator

Maria volunteered through text to be Speaker seeker (could not be present at meeting). Kelly volunteered before the meeting to be Leader seeker (could not be present). Both people were approved by vote (0 no votes, 0 abstentions).

Dana said she was interested in possibly being Moderator but was hesitant because of lack of experience. Molly offered to continue in the position for the next month, using that time to help Dana learn the position. Within this discussion, Marilyn also expressed interest in learning the position, as did Jenny. The value of training multiple people was discussed, so that we could have a primary moderator with people as backups. Molly has a good writeup to guide people, and she offered to organize a training over the next month or two, including practicing with people. This arrangement, with training over the next month or two and multiple people assisting with this position, was voted on and approved (0 no votes, 0 abstentions).

b) *Recording speakers on the meeting.* In the previous meeting we voted to keep recording our meetings. Nikki had raised the possibility of offering speakers the option of having the recording turned off, and this topic was reintroduced today. The potential value would be in increasing the diversity and range of possible speakers. A motion was made to offer this option, followed by discussion.

Discussion:

Barbara: I object to this. The speaker is the essence of a meeting and is especially important to newcomers. We are a recorded meeting, and people have the choice of whether or not to speak. It would open a can of worms to allow speakers to reject recording.

Judy: I am also against this. People who don't wish to be recorded can choose not to speak.

Molly: It would require us to have two different recordings, essentially two separate meetings. They would be the "pre-speaker" and "post-speaker" meetings, and people would have to dial in separately.

Nikki: Given what Molly has said about the technology, I withdraw the suggestion.

Jenny: I am grateful people feel they can bring up topics for discussion, as Beverly did last week. I just want to affirm that.

c) *Announcing that the meeting is being recorded.* Judy brought this up last week and reintroduced it this week, with the idea that too many announcements make it sound like a negative feature that the meeting is being recorded — warning people off. The suggestion was made that an announcement be made at the beginning, with a brief announcement before newcomers introduce themselves, e.g., "If you wish to wait until after the meeting for an unrecorded time, you can announce yourself then."

Motion: That we limit the announcement (of the meeting being recorded) to one time at the meeting of the meeting, with a simplified statement before newcomers introduce themselves.

Discussion: Deborah R. pointed out that if people dial into the meeting after it's started, they hear, "This meeting is being recorded." So even if they miss the initial announcement, they'll hear about the recording.

Friendly amendment: (In addition to the announcement at the beginning of the meeting) That the statement before newcomers introduce themselves say, "This meeting is being recorded, and if you wish to wait until after the meeting for an

unrecorded time, you can announce yourself then.” This is designed to be supportive of newcomers, who may be nervous.

[This did not need to be voted on as a new motion but was accepted as a “friendly amendment.”]

The vote was called, and the motion was passed (0 no votes, 0 abstentions).

Molly: The format will need to be revised. Do we have someone who will do this?

Deborah R volunteered to revise the format. Molly will send her a Word document to edit.

Nikki asked whether there were still some previously accepted changes to be added to the format online, because a leader had been missing some new information. But Molly confirmed that the changes have already been made, and that the leader likely had printed an old format.

4. New Business

a) There was no new business presented.

b) Final comment by member: At the end of the meeting, one member in attendance noted that she had not voted on any motions because she was new to the meeting and had heard in the format that people who were not a part of the group should not vote. She wondered if she should be listed as an abstention, but she did not wish to express controversy through an abstention vote. The votes were left unchanged, but this member was welcomed and also thanked for paying attention to the guidelines of the meeting.

5. Meeting adjourned.