

SMR Adhoc Committee
Reference Material

August 2025

Here is an AI-generated **summary** and **list of suggestions** based on the **motions and comments** surrounding Subject 25-5 The After-Meeting as seen on the meeting website, acamorning.org.

This material could aid the discussions.

Summary of Core Themes

1. Widespread Support for the After-Meeting's Current Format

- Many participants emphasized the **transformational healing** the after-meeting space offers due to its **open, organic, and unstructured nature**.
- It was repeatedly described as "**sacred**," "**rare**," "**safe**," and "**uniquely effective**" in promoting deep personal growth and connection.

2. Concern Over Imposed Structure

- There was strong pushback against attempts to over-regulate the after-meeting (e.g., enforced time limits, strict no crosstalk rules, observation by subcommittees).
- Many equated over-regulation with control traits from dysfunctional family systems, warning it could damage the healing value.

3. Respect for Other Meetings' Needs

- While opposing fixed end times, most agreed the after-meeting should **defer to scheduled SMR meetings**, especially when known in advance.
- Sue (of the Swamp)'s proposal to **self-monitor and vacate the space when needed** received broad support.

4. Clarity, Communication, and Guidelines (not rules)

- Several contributors proposed **guiding principles** such as:
 - Opening scripts
 - Voluntary cross-talk boundaries
 - Moderator training
 - Clear calendar visibility for incoming meetings



List of Suggestions (Grouped by Theme)



Timing & Space Use

- Close the after-meeting **30 minutes before any scheduled SMR meeting**.
- Do **not impose a blanket end time** on all days — let attendees manage this organically.
- Consider **breakout rooms** during conflicts or for deeper sharing.
- Ensure **calendar checks** are part of the meeting routine to prevent space conflicts.



Structure & Participation

- **No rigid time limits**, but a **suggested 5–10 minutes cap** could help balance depth and space for others.
- Continue with **no predetermined topics**; let themes emerge naturally.
- Clarify cross-talk policies with:
 - “Ask before giving feedback” model.
 - Speakers invited to state if they’re open to reflections or just want to be heard.



Moderation & Safety

- Encourage **volunteer training** for moderators, covering:
 - Zoom hosting tools
 - Breakout room management
 - Safety protocols
- Avoid requiring moderators to be **on camera 50%+** — seen as impractical and exclusionary.
- Avoid external subcommittee monitoring; instead, promote **self-responsibility and community feedback**.



Scripts & Communication

- Draft a **daily opening/closing script** to clarify expectations and safety norms.
- Post agreed practices on the **SMR website** for transparency and onboarding.
- Consider using **breakout rooms** as flexible “fellowship spaces” for storytelling, creativity, or support.



Process & Decision-Making Clarity

- Feedback expressed that voting on a large bundled proposal is confusing and ineffective.
 - Suggested **clear, separate motions**, each with its own comment section and explanation like:
 - “A ‘yea’ means X, a ‘nay’ means Y.”
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Conclusion

The after-meeting space is highly valued by many for its emotional safety and therapeutic depth. Most contributors support **preserving its organic nature** while adding light structure to support inclusion, boundaries, and respect for SMR’s operational needs. The community leans heavily toward **guidance over control, clarity over regulation, and collaboration over enforcement**.