

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

June 23-25, 1989

Friday, June 23, 1989

9:40 A.M. Meeting opened by Jack Bernstein with a moment of silence.

Attendance

Jack Bernstein, Chair
Becky Meyer, Vice Chair
Danette Creel
Donna Markus
Kim Johnson
Garth Popple
Greg Pierce
Stretch Gars
Chuck Lehman
Tom McCall

WSO Staff

Bob Stone
George Hollahan
Anthony Edmonson
Mary VanEvery
Vandy Andersen
Steve Lantos
Steve Sigman
Hollie Arnold
Ann Rider

Absent

Mario Tesoriero

WSC

Reuben Farris, 2nd Vice Chair

WSO Board

Stu Tooredman, Chair

M/S/C (Kim J./Danette C.) "To accept the minutes of the April '89 meeting."
Approved by voice vote.

The Board then proceeded to review the agenda for the weekend. Concern was voiced that the *Guide to Service* was not on the agenda, as this was one of the Board's priority items at the April meeting. A request was made that the WSO and WSC reports be given on Saturday rather than today. Jack explained that the reason for moving these reports was because the members who will be giving these reports will not be here until Saturday morning. The board decided to have Bob Stone give the WSO report today and postpone the WSC report until tomorrow afternoon.

Discussion then turned to the *Guide to Service* and the July special meeting. There was concern voiced by several members of the Board that this meeting may imply endorsement of the *Guide* by the members of the World Services community who will be attending. George clarified the purpose of the July special meeting as being threefold:

1. To present the information for discussion.
2. To determine whether any changes need to be made.
3. To discuss our responsibility in the changeover of World Services if the *Guide to Service* is approved.

There were strong feelings expressed that the *Guide to Service* not be up for fellowship approval before 1991, as there must be plenty of time for the transition to take place. Several members of the Board related their feelings regarding the July meeting, and the JAC's focus on the *Guide to Service* and world priorities. There was concern that the fellowship may not view the *Guide to Service* as favorably as the Ad Hoc Committee believes. Concern was also voiced that decisions made by the American fellowship will affect the membership on a worldwide basis.

George explained that the *Guide to Service* would not be placed into the review/input category as we know it, as the Ad Hoc on N.A. Service is not planning to ask for approval in 1990. He related that the Ad Hoc Committee is very open to input from the entire fellowship, as the *Guide* must be as inclusive as possible. He also related an assumption that generally speaking, there is support for a new direction in world services.

Discussion followed regarding a possible motion to adopt at the 1990 WSC unless there are provisions made to adopt at a later date. There was general agreement that the *Guide to Service* will be very valuable in stimulating discussion, change and excitement during the next 1-2 years.

Bob Stone then gave the WSO report, which included:

1. Nearing completion of the Commemorative Edition of the Basic Text, but have sold less than 1000 so far.
2. The WSO Board has decided that, due to a low cash flow, the ESO Manager will not be hired at this time, but they will be hiring a clerical assistant.
3. The European Service Conference will be July 21-23 and will have both WSO and WSC support.
4. A new international report, built around the International Correspondence Register, gives a status report on the growth of the fellowship worldwide. There are now meetings in 51 countries, including the U.S.
5. A meeting with the Canadians has been set to discuss distribution and sales of literature, as well as a zone change for WCC. In addition they will be discussing the Canadian National Convention and the possibility of a National Service Office and National Service Conference.
6. The WCC is going well. They are ready to start taking bids for the 1992 Convention to be held in either Montreal or Toronto. The WCC Board has requested that the BOT relinquish their seat on the WCC Board. There has also been discussion within the WCC concerning airline discount possibilities and the philosophical implications of the discount.
7. There has been much discussion concerning governmental interaction regarding tax reporting of 7th Tradition funds, which is being researched by the WSO and their legal counsel.
8. There has been discussion within the Baltimore and Northern Virginia areas concerning the formation and funding of their Area Service Offices. The problems there are mired in deeper issues of racism. A request was made to discuss this issue within the BOT subcommittees this weekend.

Jack then requested that the Coordinators present any reports they have on their respective committees. All related that they would be giving these reports in the subcommittee meetings.

The meeting recessed for lunch at 12:50 p.m. with the subcommittees to meet this evening and tomorrow morning.

Saturday June 24, 1989

The full board meeting was reconvened at 2:25 p.m. by the chairperson with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer.

Reuben Farris presented the Joint Administrative Report.

1. There will be only one WSC workshop, held in November.
2. There will be a special meeting in Albuquerque, NM from July 14-16 to discuss the *Guide to Service*. All members of the JAC, all Trustees and all BOD members will attend this meeting.
3. The assignments made at the May JAC were: Chuck Lehman to the Ad Hoc Committee on Cost Equalization. Donna Markus to the Ad Hoc Committee on Translations.

Discussion turned to the *Guide to Service*, as Reuben is the chair of the Ad Hoc Committee on N.A. Service. Concerns were voiced regarding time constraints and the possibility of postponing the publication date. A recommendation was made to involve the BOT in the *Guide to Service* development, rather than waiting until so late in the process for BOT review. A trustee asked whether the *Guide to Service* would be up for approval at the 1990 WSC, or will there be an opportunity for review/input? There was further discussion on the relevance of the *Guide to Service* to the fellowship worldwide.

Several suggestions were then presented, i.e., postpone publication, divide the publication, provide for *Guide to Service* input from the BOT, develop a document of historical review of the *Guide to Service*. There was no action taken on any of these suggestions.

The meeting continued with the presentation of the subcommittee reports.

Internal/External Report: see minutes attached.

There was concern voiced that the combination of internal/external may not be the most efficient use of the Trustees. The Board also discussed the image that N.A. presents to the general public, as well as to the legal and medical professions.

Policy & Structure/Training & Education: see minutes attached.

The primary focus for discussion was the rotation of trusted servants, with a suggestion that the committee draft an article to bring to the full board.

Literature Review: see minutes attached.

There was much discussion concerning the staff team approach for writing the traditions portion of *It Works*. The consensus was that a staff writing team should be involved in the ad hoc traditions process.

The *N.A. Way* articles on the Trustees were brought up for discussion. Members voiced concern regarding inaccuracies in historical documentation, i.e., dates, hiring of the professional writer. There was some concern regarding staff involvement in the writing of these articles.

The Board discussed its priorities briefly. A member questioned the necessity of formalizing a priority list at this time. No action was taken on this issue.

Jack reminded all of the Trustees to review the Trustee Communications Register for items to discuss at the BOT Meetings.

The Board discussed the feasibility and/or necessity of holding Traditions workshops for the members of the BOT. A meeting of this type was proposed to allow the Board to develop a common understanding and/or to present differences of understanding. No action was taken at this time.

The meeting adjourned at 7:35 PM.

Sunday, June 25, 1989

The meeting reconvened at 8:50 AM by the chairperson with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer.

Trustees present for this meeting were the same as on previous days. Also present were Hollie Arnold, George Hollahan, Bob S. (WSO Staff), Reuben F. (WSC 2nd Vice Chair), and Stu T. (BOD Chair).

Discussion began with BOT involvement on the WCC Board. Jack pointed out that the WCC bylaws require a Trustee as a WCC Board member. Stu T. and Donna M. explained why the WCC asked the BOT to surrender its seat. Discussion focused on maintaining the link between the WCC and the BOT. A general consensus was reached not to relinquish the BOT position on the WCC Board, but to allow a Trustee other than the Vice Chair to serve in this position.

Jack requested a list of all Trustee assignments, to include membership in all committees outside the BOT, as well as assignments within the Board of Trustees.

Reimbursement policies for Board members were reviewed. Shari B. (WSC Treasurer) has agreed that individual meal receipts are not necessary, as long as the meal expenses are logged on the Travel/Expense sheet. Members were reminded that meals will be reimbursed up to \$25.00 only. A new Phone Log will be developed prior to the next

Trustee meeting. Until then, Hollie asked members to keep a short list of calls made, and to turn in this list with any request for reimbursement for phone charges.

There was discussion regarding international travel and Trustee involvement in the growth of the fellowship outside the U.S. At present there is no specific procedure for choosing who will be included in international travel. Bob S. explained that these decisions are usually made jointly between the WSC Chair, WSO BOD Chair, BOT Chair, and WSO Staff. A recommendation was made to also include the vice chairs in the decision-making. There was concern voiced about the proposed India trip and whether Trustee involvement is necessary. Jack informed the Board of the proposed trips for this year and the assignments already made, i.e., European Service Conference, to include Italy and Israel; Brazil, and India.

N.A. has been asked to present testimony at a Congressional hearing on federal drug legislation. This request falls under the P.I. Contingency Plan for implementation.

The date for the next BOT meeting is October 13-15, 1989 in Van Nuys, CA.

In closing, several members of the Board remarked on the positive feeling within the Board of Trustees this weekend. There was a feeling of excitement, and a general feeling that much "good stuff" was accomplished during this meeting.

M/S/C (Chuck L./Greg P.) "To adjourn at this time".

The meeting closed at 10:45 A.M. with the Serenity Prayer.