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**MINUTES OF JUNE, 1989 MEETINGS OF
WSB INTERNAL/EXTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

June 23, 1989

Present were:

WSB Members

Kim J., Chairperson
Greg P.
Stretch G.

WSO Staff

Bob Stone
Steve Sigman
Steve Lantos

- I Meeting was called to order at 1:45 PM.
- II First item of business was discussion of motions referred to committee at WSC '89, requiring guidance from the Board of Trustees.
 1. The motion, regarding a January meeting of an expanded JAC, had been discussed previously by the BOT, resulting in board support (with some dissention) of the proposal. **Therefore, the Internal/External Trustee Committee sees no need for further discussion.**
 2. A motion was referred to the BOT concerning religious endorsements in Conference-approved service materials, and uniformity and consistency in service committee formats in respect to opening and closing meetings. **Recognizing two unrelated points in the motion, each with nonspecific intents, the committee will need more information. As a prudent action, the committee recommends writing the maker of the motion asking for specific intents and also clarity of each part of the motion. It was also suggested to have WSO staff survey our service literature for religious endorsements.**
 3. The motion referring to an Additional Needs advisory panel of the WSB Internal/External Affairs Committee was then discussed in detail. The motion calls for two panel members who will relay communication and pertinent issues to the Internal/External Committee. Discussion highlighted the need for members who possess an intimate knowledge of a handicap, good communication skills, and stability in recovery. Further discussion focused on the lack of budgetary funds for extensive transportation of these advisory members, clarity about their function, and the written and telephone communication which will be required. **It was decided to send letters to appropriate individuals, inquiring about their interest in this type of service, if**

appointed, and also asking for a return response including a letter of introduction. The letters will specifically describe expectations for this service position, emphasizing their role in advising the Internal/External Committee as opposed to representing the BOT. WSO staff will collect names and addresses and prepare drafts. (See minutes of 6/24 for updated information regarding this motion.)

4. A motion to amend the TWGSS, page 24, referring to using the NA symbol and logo was examined. **The committee suggests writing the maker of the motion and requesting clarity. The letter should inquire about specifically what this will accomplish, as well as ask for a reworded motion. Drawings of the symbol and logo should be included for specificity.**

- III The next item of business was a report from the WSO Coordinator for Public Information. The written report was summarized, requesting input on the **survey proposal** and on long range planning efforts. Discussion included a request for the Internal External Committee to be informed of broadcast dates for media coverage. Further discussion centered on **international involvement and decision making at the world level. The chairperson led a discussion concerning the need for 1 or 2 trustees to keep abreast of ongoing international developments with the purpose of formulating recommendations for long range planning in this area.** Additionally, there was some discussion about the need to separate the internal and external aspects of this committee, as combining them has caused some possible confusion in regards to areas of purview.
- IV A report was then presented from the H & I Coordinator, describing the status of H&I projects. **The priority project, *Behind the Walls*, will be presented to the Literature Review Committee and also this committee by August 1. Input is needed by October 1. A conference call is suggested for the end of September.**
- V Working with WSC Committees was the next topic. A long discussion ensued, **focusing on long range planning.** The trustees, with each member serving 5 years and having lengthy experience, can offer a long range perspective to conference committee leadership. **Three levels of interaction were specified: goals, projects, and events. A prominent role for trustees is in goals and goal policy statements.** This was discussed in terms of year to year goals for the conference committees. With respect to projects, discussion centered upon parameters as opposed to details, and also ongoing knowledge of project management. Each trustee and staff member shared their thoughts, and the **discussion concluded with a suggestion to utilize some time in Albuquerque for discussion with the chairs and vice-chairs of H&I and P.I.**

Further discussion emphasized **providing guidance in the context of long range views, broadening perspectives, and theme recommendations.** Developing themes for each committee's work can effectively mobilize the fellowshp around issues and impact long term change. One suggestion included **N.A.'s image with various segments of society (reference pages 28 & 29 of Guide to PI).** While it was generally agreed that we may have some knowledge of what our image is within some sectors of society, i.e. some treatment professionals, some correctional facilities, etc., the consensus was that increased awareness in this area was needed. Questions discussed included: How do we want to be perceived and how do we accomplish this? It was hoped that our meetings with the H&I and PI leadership will lead to the development of a long range plan relating to the improvement of our public relations policy which would have a positive impact upon our public image. **Other themes discussed included embezzlement of funds, prejudice and spiritual principles, strengthening services by decentralizing world level services, communication between committees and boards at all levels.**

- VI A recommendation was made to include some past chairpersons of conference committees as members of this trustee committee. Also, it was emphasized that **the discussions in Albuquerque will likely result in an expanded list of specific ideas for theme issues which will be useful at the next BOT meeting.**

The agenda items for Saturday's committee meeting will include; non-addict trustees, international needs, priorities of trustees, the survey proposal, and a workplan for the year.

- VII The chairperson thanked all participants, and the meeting was adjourned at 5:45 PM.