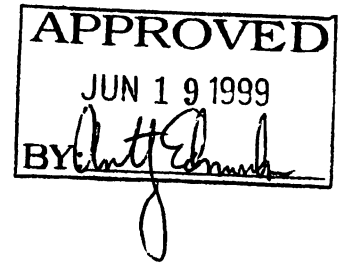


**APPROVED MINUTES  
NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS WORLD SERVICES, INC.  
WORLD BOARD MEETINGS  
WORLD SERVICE CONFERENCE 1999  
WARNER CENTER MARRIOTT - WOODLAND HILLS, CALIFORNIA  
SATURDAY, 24 APRIL 1999 TO SATURDAY, 1 MAY 1999**



**SATURDAY, 24 APRIL 1999**

**World Board present:** Mario Tesoriero, David James, Bella Anderson, Daniel Schuessler, Larry Roche, Tony Walters, Cary Seltzer, Craig Robertson, Bob Jordan, Susan Chess, Mary Kay Berger, Jon Thompson, Michael McDermott, Stephan Lantos, Lib Edmonds, Claudio Lemionet, and Jane Nickels.

Floyd Best was absent with notice for the week due to illness.

**WSO Staff:** George Hollahan, Anthony Edmondson, Eileen Perez-Evans, Becky Meyer, and Michael Lee

The chair opened the meeting at 9:10am with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer.

**CLOSED SESSION**

**Projects Plans**

There are currently about 160 names in the World Pool. Names currently on the list are the result of brainstorming. The board was asked to consider any additional names for the World Pool and to forward names to the chair in the next few weeks. The board further noted that the HRP may want to look into why there are so few names submitted in the World Pool. It may require notifying the fellowship that individuals will not be removed from the pool if they refuse to be on a particular project (names go back into pool), and either modify the current form or create a new form to gather more useful information. Final decisions about World Pool members for projects will be made later.

Other recommendations were added to the list provided by the EC.

The chair further asked the board to review the project plans and state any objection to any of Executive Committees recommendations for board assignments by the next board meeting. Daniel stated that he preferred to not be assigned to the Motion 21 Project. The board discussed CAR sensitive project plans. The board voiced no other objections to recommendations for assignments to the project plans. Board members should feel free to disclose what may be a personality conflict on an individual basis with the chair. The board discussed disclosing that with current timelines of five of the projects the board will not utilize the HRP for the World Pool members on these initial projects. Staff will contact World Pool members once final decisions are made.

The premise of the timeline for the projects goes along with everything the board has discussed in previous meetings; i.e. staff will do initial lining out/framework for projects.

**French Personal Stories**

The French speaking LTC's are in the Accelerated Translations Stream. Staff will provide a copy of the Translation Policy to all board members by the end of this week. Susan and Claudio will review the personal stories and the glossary with Claude, the RD from Quebec. The board was directed to review the stories and submit any recommendation to the chair by June 5<sup>th</sup>, 1999. The body was reminded of the objectives when reviewing the personal stories, not rewriting, only

looking for items that they have a problem with being published. The local communities involved have accepted these stories.

### **Presentations**

#### **World Board**

George Hollahan, Anthony Edmondson, Michael McDermott, and Craig Robertson will do the presentation. Power Point slides will be used along with the verbal presentation. Michael will give the verbal report with the exception of the NA Way portion. All board members will be on the front podium. Michael, Anthony and George will be at the lower podium. All board members should be prepared to answer questions. The board voiced no objection to the presentation with minor changes.

Becky, Jeff, Jane, and the Executive Committee will present the Fellowship Development Plan and CTF in the afternoon.

#### **Unified Budget**

Anthony Edmondson will provide this presentation on Wednesday. The board reviewed the presentation and voiced no other objections to presentation with one minor change.

#### **Resolution A**

Mario reviewed the presentation, and minor changes were made. The board voiced no objections to presenting the Resolution A presentation with minor changes. It was suggested that the slide show was too long.

The board went into a session for training the facilitators for the small groups and panel discussions at 11:30 and adjourned for lunch at 12:30..

### **Saturday, April 24, 1999**

#### **Open Forum Session**

The same members were present as for the morning session.

**Conference Participants Present:** Gordon (RD N. Cal Region), Vinnie F (WSC Co-Facilitator), Greg I (RDA Pacific Cascades), Tom (RD Pacific Cascades), Tim (RD Australia), Gary (RDA Australia), John (RDA Greater New York Region), Jim E. (RD Greater New York Region), Jacob, Emma, John, Dylan, Simon, and Ben.

The meeting was opened at 2:10pm, with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer.

The chair advised the group of three more open forum sessions planned during the conference week each time the WB meets. The floor was then opened for discussion.

Jim E. (RD Greater New York Region) expressed his concern with shopping carts, and credit card information being intercepted from Website etc.; wonders what criteria will be created to ensure this does not happen.

Resp.: Anthony responded that a security level would have to be placed in the browser.

Jim E. (RD Greater New York Region) stated that in the Annual Report it seems to read that the *Miracles Happens* book has been translated into Portuguese and wonders if the production has stopped?

Resp: George responded that he is not aware of the *Miracles Happens* being translated into Portuguese and that we have not stopped production, books are still available from

the original production. It was further noted that the Annual Report is missing a semi colon when reporting Portuguese translations.

Bob J. (WB) asked the group for any input on the NAWS News.

Simon expressed his personal opinion, finding it frustrating when something is alluded to as opposed to stated directly. Would prefer more information, he made a specific reference to the WCNA 27 financial information.

Resp: Michael responded that this was due to the lack of available information.

Jim E. (RD Greater New York Region) personally thanked the board for a response he received to an email he sent and also echoed preferring more information. Jim went on to ask about the availability of board approved minutes. Also asked that the available reporting mechanisms be listed and provided to the fellowship.

Resp: Michael responded that approved board minutes are available upon request, and that the NAWS News is somewhat of a catch-up piece, allowing the board to report to a broader base of the fellowship. The News is a short report purposefully to allow for translations.

Mario also advised the group that this is one of the items the CTF will be reviewing.

Stephan expanded on NAWS News noting that we were trying to keep reporting simple and translatable not trying to keep information from the fellowship.

Barrington DLR (RD UK Region) asked the board "how is the World Board jelling?"

Resp: Mario stated he is very happy to be on a board where everyone can share their different points of view, and come to a consensus as opposed to the old system where nothing seemed to get through the process.

Stephan shared his initial thoughts when he was elected to the board, "how are 18 people going to accomplish all this work that many more used to do." However now feels it is a great privilege to work and be a part of the board.

David commented on the amount of work that's expected of him and about the privileged feeling of working with the other board members. Commends the Executive Committee work and shared about the trust level felt within the board.

Jane shared about her initial fear once she was elected, not really knowing each other, etc. Now she feels the board is a unit, oneness. There is lots of trust, doing more in the administrative role.

Bob referred to the old process and how the World Board is not engaging in it. We have a set of Ground Rules that we created to help us do our work, really likes the respect of being permitted to speak one's mind and still coming together to reach consensus.

Craig stated that one of the best things we did was to take the time to really get to know each other. Further stated that yes there is a lot of work and more to do however we have made great effort to build a foundation on which to work from. We all have the same commitment to serve the fellowship.

Michael echoed Craig's sentiments, and further shared his initial skepticism, but now feels that a power greater than ourselves has created the board. The process of creating a bond/partnership with everyone here has been a great experience and he is thankful for the opportunity.

Mary Kay reflected back on having been a part of the past WSO board. Has seen a significant difference between the two. This board started out functioning with a "getting into the solution" mode. We look at everyone's strength.

Tony shared that he feels that this board represents a spiritual committee. We listen to each other, and really share our experience, strength, and hope. We are very open minded, and have come together for the primary purpose of the fellowship. There are no hidden agenda's – we all walk away feeling okay knowing it's all in the open, we're not about egos or personal #@\$%.

Barrington DLR (RD UK Region) shared that he is very excited to hear how the board is functioning; i.e. the consensus based decision making process, and wonders if all the decisions are made in this manner and are some decision held up because of it?

Resp: Michael explained the process the board uses, and further stated that due to legal requirements all decisions are documented.

David shared his experience and knowledge with group conscience and consensus.

Simon (Australia) expressed his personal opinion of being pleased with the way everything has worked out. He asked for an explanation on why the board would have a "closed" session here at the conference. Also asked how the board addresses a board member leaving the board.

Resp: Michael stated that "closed" meetings are held to deal with personnel issues and discussions that involve individuals for assignments and/or nominations. This morning's session dealt with possible World Pool assignments and the board presentation to the conference. He further addressed board members leaving the board, and training new World Board members. Michael went on to say that some former trusted servants are still being utilized in other ways.

Jose' (RD Brazil) thanked the board for their work, but is concerned about how the newly elected board members fit in. What does the board plan on doing to help welcome them.

Resp: Jon shared that the board has not really discussed this subject, however we will embrace them the way we have continued to embrace each other. We are all also committed to continuing the process of having discussion groups. The board has worked very hard at educating ourselves and each other. We are very much committed to allowing everyone to come to a common understanding on any issues.

Cary noted that the learning curve will be great, there's no denying it, but we are all committed to each other.

Greg I. (RDA Pacific Cascades Region) it gives him chills when he sees world level trusted servants acted confused when asked about group level questions, and shared his experience with what he's seen over the years.

Tom (Pacific Cascades) asked the board to share some of the stumbling blocks that have been experienced as well as the expected stumbling blocks

Resp: David reflected on trying to be proactive in everything we need to do.

Tom asked what the World Board needed from the fellowship.

Resp: Mario stated that what we really want is dialogue and input. When the board asks for input they really need it.

Stephan further expressed that the board needs communication and support to find out what the fellowship thinks.

Craig touched on Issue Discussions and being a part of at the group level, etc.

Daniel stated his appreciation for the question regarding what the fellowship can do.

John C. stated his appreciation for the opportunity to meet with the board, referred to an email regarding the World Board being a part of a "traveling team." Briefly recapped a rotating cycle which could be used to accomplish this travel team, giving up the "normal jobs" and getting out there and meeting the fellowship. John stated that he believes that the board needs to be more involved, and based his vision and belief that tons of money will start to come in to the World Service Office and believes this can be done. John further stated that he has brought 200 copies of his 22 page personal appeal to his Tenth Concept Grievance – attachments may be added later however does not want to discuss this issue.

Resp: Michael reiterated that this would be John's opportunity to bring his petition up with the full board.

John C. declined the opportunity to discuss this matter further.

John H. asked the board if they've discussed electronic media as a form of communications.

Resp: Stephan responded that we haven't discussed it as a full board. However, publications are available on the website, as well as translations. He reminded everyone that if a particular region wanted to receive communications they should let the board know – submit as input to the CTF. The other part of the electronic communications dilemma is that there is no universal file type.

Michael reiterated that if someone wanted to receive the Conference Report, as an example, via email, a request needs to be submitted. The request would be reviewed by the board to assess it's viability.

The open forum was adjourned at 4:10pm to allow the workgroups to meet.

### **Monday, April 26, 1999**

The same members were present throughout the week.

The meeting was opened at 9:05pm with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer.

Old Business Motions were discussed for recommendations from the WB. It was noted that Motions #13 and #14 have already been dealt with.

#### **Motion #16**

That regions and the World Board be allowed up to 150 words to describe the reasoning behind and consequences of motions in the CAR.

Intent: To improve Fellowship communications by allowing regions and the World Board the same verbiage to describe reasons for motions and the consequences they entail.

It was the recommendation of the board to reject.

#### **Motion #17**

That regions and the World Board list 3 Pros and 3 Cons to describe their respective motions in the CAR.

Intent: To help the areas and groups to be more aware of both sides so they may make a good decision.

It was the recommendation of the board to reject.

#### **Motion 18**

To commit CAR Motion 6 to the World Board.

Intent: To ensure its consideration if it fails on the WSC floor.

It was the recommendation of the board to adopt.

**Motion #19**

To remove the words "recovery and "service" from Motion #9 in the 1999 CAR.

Intent: To guarantee proposals of new literature and material are approved by the Fellowship of NA.

It was the recommendation of the board to reject.

**Motion #21**

To commit Motion 2 to the World Board to be developed for review and input.

Intent: Our region believes all readings for NA meetings should go through the review and input process.

It was the recommendation of the board to reject the motion as written.

**Motion #22**

To add the following language to the end of the sentence in Motion #10 "from the horrors of addiction." The statement will now read "That no addict seeking recovery need ever die from the horrors of addiction."

It was the recommendation of the board to reject.

**Motion #23**

To commit CAR Motion 5 to the World Board.

Intent: To be in compliance with Motion 21.

It was the recommendation of the board to adopt.

**Motion #24**

To commit CAR Motion 6 to the World Board.

Intent: To allow the World Board to complete the work required to include appropriate time frame for use during the new 2-year conference cycle.

It was the recommendation of the board to adopt (same as motion 18)

**Motion #25**

To Commit CAR Motion 2 to the World Board project plan process adopted last year.

Intent: For budgetary prioritization and using the recovery literature review process.

It was the recommendation of the board to adopt

**Motion #26**

To commit CAR Motion 6 to the NAWS, Inc. World Board for input, research and to make recommendations for this motions implementation after we move to a two-year conference cycle.

Intent: To postpone implementation until the WSC moves into a 2-year cycle.

It was the recommendation of the board to adopt this motion in principle. The board discussed Jon and Lib working with maker, and further discussed adopting in principle.

**World Board Elections**

The conference took extraordinary action to stagger World Board terms, so whomever is elected would fit into the staggered term cycle. Process used will be as last years, i.e. choice or lottery. This will be explained to conference participants during the election procedures. It was the consensus of the board to use the lottery system for any new elected World Board members; i.e. terms available are 1 year, 3 years and 5 years.

**Internal Guidelines**

The board discussed proposing to the conference the option of presenting the Internal Guidelines to the conference next year as opposed to them being in the CAR. The idea of having the conference, reviewing and approving the guidelines would create an atmosphere of working together. The board voiced no objection to presenting this idea to the conference on Wednesday.

**Resolution A**

It was noted that 98% of the issues in Resolution A have already been taken care of, and that what was being proposed were ideas to see where we could go from here to deal with the remaining 2% of the items. It was the board's intention that the small groups were laid out in a way to gather information from the conference participants to move forward. There were no hidden agendas. It was further noted that the board needs to better clarify the objective, as well as voice to the conference that it was not the intention of the board to disregard any RD's input. It was suggested to go into a committee as a whole to clarify the board's intention, share feelings – see what happened, then maybe only discuss question #4. Each board member shared their feelings. It should be made clear to the conference that they have the ability to set the direction and the decision made will effect us for a large number of years.

The pros and cons regarding the panels discussing all four questions at one time and the idea of going into a committee of the whole was discussed. Other ideas proposed were to keep discussions in panels allowing facilitators to share the common ground, framing ideas, allowing groups to go wherever they need to go, or present questions in a simpler manner – yes or no form, more specific and clear. Board discussion discussed how to proceed tomorrow. Final decision of the board was to begin the discussion in a committee of the whole, then break up into panels.

The board went into an open session with conference participants at 11:30pm

**Open Forum**

Joanna suggest having RD's facilitating the groups and bring group together to say what the World Board thinks then let conference participants go where they need.

Kevin shared that many conference participants felt that what was getting ready to happen was the adding to an already complex issue and nobody seemed willing to move. More time needed to be allocated to the Resolution A discussion/presentation. We have many questions.

Gordon like Joanna's idea of allowing RD's to facilitate groups.

Paul shared his feelings of trusting the World Board and that the board may have been cut short in their presentation. Paul stated that the Resolution A presentation was presented in manageable pieces. He further felt that conference participants had the hidden agenda's.

Leah brought up dialogue not monologue, and that the ideas which were presented by the board should have been distributed before the WSC.

Board continued to meet with conference participants but the record ended at midnight.

**Thursday, April 29, 1999**

The same members were present as for the earlier sessions in the week.

The meeting was opened at 5:26pm with a moment of silence and the Serenity Prayer.

New Business motions were discussed to determine the recommendation from the WB.

**Motion #28**

That the World Board shall have access to the Conference Agenda Report regardless of whether they have items for action in the agenda.

Intent: To grant the World Board access to the CAR as a vehicle for reporting to the fellowship.  
It was the recommendation of the board to adopt.

**Motion #29**

That all changes made to the first 11 pages of the Little White Book, the first 10 chapters of the Basic Text, and It Works, How and Why must be approved by the group tally process as described in TWGWSS on page 22

Intent: to ensure that proposed changes are approved by a clear majority of NA members as expressed through their NA groups.  
17 against, 1 in favor

It was the recommendation of the board to reject

**Motion #30**

To direct the World Board to develop a guide book for working the 12 Traditions.

Intent: To provide a publication, similar to the Step Working Guide, that can help unify the fellowship by sharing the world wide experience of our members in applying the spiritual principles in our traditions.

It was the recommendation of the board to commit to the Motion 21 process.

**Motion #31**

That translation headsets be funded for all conference participants for WSC 2000 for the duration of the conference and provide interpretation services.

Intent: To facilitate interpretive services for the duration of the WSC 2000.

Motion was withdrawn however it is the intention of the board to proceed.

**Motion #32**

To direct the World Board to include consensus-bases decision-making processes for the World Service Conference in the 2-year conference cycle plan.

Intent: To fulfill Resolution A, part 3 and provide the World Service Conference with a structure to improve communication and facilitate discussion.

It was the recommendation of the board to adopt

**Motion #33**

To reduce the number of World Board members for the Motion 21 project to 2.

Intent: We desire the World Board to facilitate and guide and that the membership do the work recommended by the committee.

It was the recommendation of the board to reject. The board will provide reasoning to conference participants.

**Motion #34**

To provide direction to the World Board for the Motion 21 project plan as follows: To include, under the description of the 11<sup>th</sup> Tradition in the Basic Text and It Works, How and Why, language regarding the application of this tradition to television and the Internet.

Intent: To clarify the message of the 11<sup>th</sup> Tradition regarding these 2 mediums.

It was the recommendation of the board to adopt

**Motion #35**

That the World Board form a working group to explore the issues surrounding recognition of online NA meetings by World Services.

Intent: That formal discussions begin at the world level on the issues surrounding online NA meetings, which are attended by members throughout the world.

It was the recommendation of the board to commit to the World Board and clearly state expectations to conference participants.

**Motion #36**

To remove the book, Miracles Happen, as an inventory item after the current supply is sold, and put it into an input and review process.



Intent: To review the content for conflicts with the traditions, particularly the 10<sup>th</sup>, and make revisions where problems are found.

It was the recommendation of the board to reject

**Motion #37**

That NAWS, Inc. provide an email discussion list for WSC participants that wish to participate. This discussion list will be open for subscriptions and full participation by all WSC participants that wish to take part. Non-conference participants will be able to subscribe to the list as non-participants without posting privileges. All translations will be the responsibility of the list participants.

Intent: To facilitate continuing worldwide communication between conference participants and create a greater sense of community.

It was the recommendation of the board to commit to the World Board

**Motion #38**

That the WSC Co-Facilitator shall appoint a 3-member panel consisting of 2 RD's and 1 World Board member. This panel shall be directed to determine the appropriate platform to hear the 10<sup>th</sup> Concept petition for redress of a grievance, submitted by John C. past RDA, Ecuador. This panel shall submit its findings to the 1999 WSC before the close of business on Friday, April 30<sup>th</sup>. All concerned parties shall be given the opportunity to address the panel and express their views.

Intent: To ensure that the spirit of the 10<sup>th</sup> Concept is upheld and that the petitioner has an opportunity to present his belief as to why the WSC is an appropriate setting to hear his petition.

It was the recommendation of the board to reject.

**Motion #39**

To re-open elections to lower the requirement for election to the World Board at this WSC to a simple majority.

Intent: to fill the vacant World Board seats as was intended in the spirit on Motion #107 at WSC '98.

It was the recommendation of the board to reject.

**Motion #40**

That NAWS, Inc. research the feasibility of using email for communication with those conference participants who request this.

Intent: To explore technology as a means of saving money and speeding our communications.

It was the recommendation of the board to commit to the World Board.

**Motion #41**

That communication from the entities of NAWS, Inc. to the fellowship be written at 8<sup>th</sup> grade level, whenever possible.

Intent: To simplify written communication.

It was the recommendation of the board to commit to the World Board.

**Motion #42**

To amend Resolution A by replacing the entire language with "What is the role of the WSC in the fellowship."

Intent: To start in a new place on the principle that spawned Resolution A.

It was the recommendation of the board to reject.

**Motion #43**

To have a space on the agenda for zonal forum report sessions at all future WSC's.

Intent: So that zonal forums can report their activities to the full WSC.

It was the recommendation of the board to adopt.

**Motion #44**

That the World Board provide only information, not recommendations on motions in the Conference Agenda Report.

Intent: To avoid unduly influencing the group conscience process.

The board did not have time to discuss motion.

#### **Motion #45**

That the WSC delay implementation of a 2 year conference cycle until such time as the World Board internal guidelines are in place.

Intent: To avoid placing the World Board in a position of being without guidelines or WSC directions.

The board did not have time to discuss motion.

The meeting adjourned at 6:35pm

### **SATURDAY, MAY 1, 1999**

The same members were present as previously reported with the exception of George Hollahan who was absent.

The meeting was brought to order at 10:35am with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer.

NA anniversaries acknowledged for Wolfgang (RD Germany) and Samuel (Sierra Sage). The chair thanked conference participants at the meeting for coming to the meeting.

### **Language Group Meetings**

#### **Israel**

Anthony summarized the discussions that occurred with the representatives from Israel. Topics talked about were financial issues, and being placed on the Accelerated Stream. After further discussion, the representatives from Israel stated that at this point it would not be in the best interest of the Local Translation Committee (LTC) to be placed in the Accelerated Stream. They further agreed to continue paying on the outstanding literature bill. Communications with the Israel representatives and World Services will be through Anthony and Michael.

#### **Brazil**

Anthony stated that there has not been enough time to assess information given regarding of literature prices and currency fluctuations. Anthony went on to say that many communities had a sudden change in exchange and that this will be an ongoing discussion.

#### **Philippines**

Situation regarding the production of a translated version of the Basic Text by a local priest was discussed. A report will be provided to the Executive Committee by the June meeting. Anthony and Rechi (RD) also discussed literature need and/or lack of NA literature in the Philippines. The WSO will provide literature to the fellowship as we do for India.

### **Medallions**

Anthony talked about the quotes received from Quebec, Peru, and Mexico and stated that it is still less expensive to have the medallions made in the United States. The Executive Directors will report at the upcoming June meeting.

A request has been submitted for the World Board to review the possibility of producing a Just For Today medallion. This will also be discussed at the June meeting.

### **French Personal Stories**

The board was given a copy of the Translation Basics parts 1, 2, and 3, as well as the Translations Policy. The board went over what type of usage they should be concerned with

when reviewing the stories. The production timeframe is usually 8 weeks after the WSO receives the Local Translation Committee final sign-off, which is their approval for production.

### **June World Board Meeting**

There was discussion regarding moving the dates of the June meeting from June 18-20 to later in the month due to Jane not being able to come early in the week for a CTF meeting. Bella will not be able to attend the June meeting no matter what date it is changed to.

Craig, Daniel, Jane, Mary Kay do not know if they will be able to attend if the meeting is moved to the weekend of June 26. Board members will contact the office regarding their availability for either weekend in June as soon as possible. Elections will be held at this meeting.

### **World Services Meeting**

Delegates have asked about the September World Services meeting. The meeting will begin on Friday, September 24<sup>th</sup> at 9 am and end around 2 pm on Sunday, September 26<sup>th</sup>. The board will have a meeting on Thursday, September 23<sup>rd</sup> starting at 9am.

A written agenda will be sent to conference participants as soon as it is done.

### **Workgroups**

All workgroup meeting are tied to a board meeting. This will also affect the way the board operates during meetings as well as before meetings. Input for workgroups is to be sent to Eileen by May 7, 1999. The Executive Committee will advise the board of the final decision as soon as possible. The chair reminded the body that the framework for workgroup direction will already be done by the time board meets in June, as well as the level of detail to be received.

Finalized information will go to conference participants.

### **DF Participant Input**

Ramesh, RD India shared that he had a good week, as well as experience of past RD's only having a one year term and how that has been hard because what happens is that each year India would send an RD with no experience to the conference. Although terms have now been changed to two years, he suggests that the World Board look into the availability of financial resources to fund the RD and the RDA's.

Giovanna, RD Colombia shared her experience at last years WSC, coming alone. She felt that the conference last year was too long, very overwhelming and that too much information was given. This year the RDA was able to come, and she tried to prepare the alternate as much as possible since this is her last year as Delegate. Giovanna went on to talk about how difficult it is to share all the information from the WSC with other areas within Colombia due to distance, i.e. 12-hour ride. However is very grateful to being given the opportunity to serve in NA, as well as her feelings of fear, and excitement for having been elected as the Colombia Convention Host Committee chairperson.

Eddie, RD Norway: shared his appreciation to the board for all the work done and the time given to the DF which helped him to feel apart of the WSC. Liked the conference being shortened by two days, and the slots allotted for Zonal Forum reporting. Eddie stated that Zonal Forum reporting would allow for someone else to speak on behalf on Norway, as it is his feeling that it's not so important to be present only important to be represented. He further shared liking to see the consensus based decision making process work.

Arthur, RD New Zealand thanked the board for his funding to the WSC and the past difficulty in trying to get to the conference. He shared about his excitement about the changes he's seen this week and believes what he has seen and experienced will help the New Zealand region with discussions. Arthur liked the small groups as well as the Zonal Forum reporting because he felt that the small groups gave everyone a chance to speak, and the forums a way to be represented.

Arthur talked about translations occurring in New Zealand and that there are many dialects of Maori as well as that the number of meeting are continuing to grow. Arthur went on to share about the difficulty with receiving anything via mail since postal system in New Zealand is not reliable, and suggests that research on alternative ways to receive mail is done. He also suggested that more translators are made available at the conference; he speaks English and still had difficulty understanding process. Arthur went on to say that he is looking forward to 2-year conference cycle and trust that the process will work out.

Juan Guillermo, RD Costa Rica shared that this will be his last year as a RD, and felt that the most difficult thing for him was interacting with others. He worries that the next RD will probably have the same difficulties. He went on to suggest that maybe the board should either research financial resources to fund RDA's as well or think about creating an activity that would help break the ice. His main problem was understanding the conference session's process. Small groups, and conference presentations were enjoyable, however difficulty within the region is that very few want to hear the information, this is a lack of interest in learning about service or wanting to be of service. He would like ideas on these issues.

Wolfgang, RD Germany, shared about the difficulties for the past 2 year's within the region and the current inventory process they are going through. It was hard for him to get up and share because he did not know when it was appropriate to speak on certain issues he wanted to bring up. Wolfgang suggested that more committees of the whole be held to facilitate discussion forums. He thanked the board for all the work that has been done and trusts the process. He went on to share that he would have liked the ability to interact with another board member on a personal recovery level.

Ron B. APF shared that he appreciated the ability to give a zonal forum report, as well as allow someone who is not a conference participant the ability to participate.

Raul, RD Argentina, shared a little of his experience in Dallas during 1992. At that time it was very difficult to participate, and thanked the board for continuing efforts to help non-English speaking delegates to understand, and feel more a part of, it has allowed a different voice to be heard. Raul further shared liking the Communications presentations, as communications is difficult within our region, and also asked that in the future small group questions be translated. He expressed that he looks forward to the day when we all listen to each other as opposed to trying to change each others minds, looks forward to consensus based decision making. He also shared that he personally does not understand what so many amendments have to do with carrying the message to the addict that still suffers.

Camilo, RDA Colombia, expressed his initial fear before arriving at the conference, and sometimes did not understand what was going on as things went to fast. Camilo went on to state that next year he will be the RD and will do the best he can to fill Giovanna's shoes. However very grateful for the opportunity to share and learn.

Giovanna, RD Colombia, shared that she appreciated the presentation of the budget; went on to state that she is not a numbers person, but actually understood what was presented and thanked Anthony for that. She went on the share that she liked the felling of change and is looking forward to it.

Eduardo, RDA Brazil, stated that he felt a part of the process. He went on to share about his being a part of the service structure in Brazil in 1992 and his amazement of the growth he has seen. Initially there were only a few members present at their Regional Assembly and last March there were 22 areas present. Eduardo suggested that the board think about having a dinner at the beginning of the conference to help everyone feel a little more comfortable. Also suggested that the Web be utilized more for communications, and that maybe this would help defuse energy and expectations of conference. Eduardo shared that he really liked seeing the change of the WSC this year, and also suggested that in the future the board look into using small groups to discuss budget, projects, etc. He went on to talk about the difficulties the region is having

with the fluctuation in currency and purchasing literature. He hopes the WSO and region can create some type of plan. Eduardo thanked the board for all their work.

Tim RDA, Australia, shared that this was his first conference and was very disillusioned at the way NA funds were spent during parliamentary procedures. He did not really care for the way he thought some delegates used the procedures.

The chair thanked everyone for their input, and stated that if there were any further questions that board members would be available. The participants were asked to forward any WSC input/ideas to the World Service Office.

The meeting concluded at 1:30 pm with the Serenity prayer.