Friday 18 June 1999

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

Not present: Jane Nickels, Bella Anderson, and Floyd Best.

Staff Present:
Anthony Edmondson, George Hollahan, Becky Meyer, Nancy Schenck, and Eileen Perez-Evans.

Action Group Session
Susan led the board in action group session that asked each member to state what they saw as a recap for the first year of the board, their perception of the challenges for the upcoming year and their dreams for the board during the upcoming year.

Report from the Executive Committee
The agenda for the meeting was reviewed. A request was made to discuss "consensus based decision-making", and the board agreed to discuss this later in the meeting. The discussion turned to the need for a different type of board meeting this year. The board now has two days to cover material that they covered in three-day meetings. Details and specific questions need to be addressed away from the meeting if possible. The Action Item list and Correspondence are being provided for information only. Individual board members can bring up any item that they feel needs full board discussion.

Reporting
The reporting timeline for this conference year was included in the board's package and discussed. *NAWS News* will only have a ten-day turn around for production. Board input will have to be conceptual, with identification of what should be said. Deadline dates will be indicated on all cover sheets and any input not received by the stated deadline will not be factored into the draft. The first draft of *NAWS News* will go out to the full board. The Executive Committee will only review board input which staff has questions on. Once the Executive Committee approves NA *WS News* it will be produced and mailed.

WSM and Unity Day 1999
Flyers have gone out to the fellowship for Unity Day. Michael may not be available to attend the board meeting planned for the Thursday before the World Services meeting. The layout for the World Service meeting and Unity Day was summarized. The only scheduled break for everyone is during the buffet and recovery meeting time slots, however the board was reminded of the possibility of workgroups deciding to meet during that time. The Executive Committee will notify the board regarding any decision on workgroup meetings if any are requested. Board members will be responsible for their own registration, and any board members who want to attend the buffet will be given a ticket and $15.00, which will total the $40.00 food expense for that day.

Regions to be funded to the world services meeting have been selected and contacted. The board will be appraised of which regions decline and accept.

Interactions and Protocols between the Workgroups and the World Board
The body was asked to discuss what the board believes are consensus-based decisions. The Two-Year Conference Cycle Workgroup will provide the board with information from workgroup to assist with discussion. This item will be revisited at the August board meeting.

The point person for each workgroup will work with staff on the creation of the workgroup meeting agendas. The chair summarized the Executive Committees discussion regarding delegating authority. Some other thoughts from the board were to have open and honest communication, lots of communication, make expectation clear to workgroups, give firm direction, and that all workgroups should communicate with each other. The Executive Committee discussed and recommended that the EC have the opportunity to first review workgroup reports intended to go out the fellowship, before being distributed to the fellowship. The board concurred with the Executive Committee on this procedure.

The Executive Committee asked each workgroup to document their own internal process and procedures as they go along, as this information may be used for the Internal Processes and Procedures. Anything that was created this past week should be forwarded to the Executive Committee, as well as any future practices.

The board will also have to further discuss the difference between a workgroup and a committee.

Review of 1998 Audit with Mike Quackenbush
All World Convention Audit/Financial information will be addressed at the August board meeting. Mike Quackenbush is responsible for the overall auditing for NAWS Inc. Mike stated that this year all of the corporations were combined into what was WSO, Inc. Overall, most of the 1997-1998 changes are about dealing with the convention and the consolidation. The contract labor increase was due to convention and the fact that amounts that used to be shown as due from one of these entities to another is eliminated in the consolidation.

M/S/C   Bob J., Mario T.   Unanimous
"To accept the 1998 audit report as provided by Thomas Havey."

There was a brief question and answer period with Mike and he was thanked for his attendance and work this past year.

Production Items
French Personal Stories
The French Speaking regions used the same criteria as was used for the English stories. Translations of the French original stories for inclusion in the Basic Text had been provided to each board member for review. A concern was raised that the Translations Policy has no provision for the maximum number of stories to be published in the Basic Text. The English Basic Text has twenty-four stories and the French personal stories total 38. A suggestion was made that the criteria for Personal Stories be further examined at some point. The thirty eight stories that were submitted are all intended to be included in the French text. The Local Translation Committee (LTC) will be provided with a last review for grammar, etc.

M/S/C   Mario T/Stephan L.   14-1-0
"To approve the French Personal Stories."

After further discussion the board came to the general consensus that the stories were acceptable for approval, and the chair asked if anyone was opposed to approving the French Personal Stories. The original motion was accepted by a vote of 14 – 1.

UK *Little White Book*
It was stated that the intent behind publishing the booklet was to reflect the UK NA community, and that it was never the intention to produce a book with international stories.

Concern was raised that some stories are drug specific. There was some confusion expressed regarding the actual approval process, as well as if the board was being asked to produce and approve a country specific piece of literature or a translation. An explanation of the exact process was provided, and noted that the UK region did have the Translation Policy criteria. Australia and Canada signed off on the first section of the Little White Book only. The discussion that took place with these communities was that world services would not produce different versions of the anglicized front portion of the LWB or the Basic Text but would produce different versions of the LWB due to different personal stories. The approval of each of these communities to the front portion was meant to create a standard.

A suggestion was made to require a change on the front of the cover to "Anglicized Version' and if any changes are to made in the future all "Queens" English speaking communities are to sign off on the book. There was an objection to the term "Queens English". This is the term used in the translations policy and developed by the delegates affected in creating the motion that was adopted by the WSC.

M/S/C　　　　　David J./Daniel S.　　　　　　　Unanimous
"To approve the production of the Little White Book as presented with the words "Anglicized version" replacing "UK Edition with UK stories" on the front cover after all communities in the language group sign off on the book. Any future changes will require approval by all communities in the language group as is stated in the World Services Translations Policy."

Binding for *Step Working Guides*
The board was asked to revisit the decision previously made regarding the binding of the Step Working Guide. This will be a costly process and the office would like to test a couple of different binding methods to see which one works best. There were suggestions to change the binding and increase the price .10 - .20 cents to help cover WSO cost.

M/S/C　　　　　Susan C./ Mary Kay B　　　　　　Unanimous
"That the implementation of the new binding production on the *Step Writing Guides* be postponed until management researches the issue and comes back to the board with a recommendation."

Translated Medallions
No objections voiced to the proposal of postponing further discussion regarding the direction for translated medallions until the August board meeting, where all the compiled information will be presented.

Two-Year Conference Cycle Workgroup
Lib is the point person for the workgroup. Workgroup members include Mary Chant-Valentine, and Gordon Costello and David, Mary Kay and Lib from the WB. Interested members for this group are Michael, Jon, Anthony and George. Staff assigned is Becky Meyer, Mike Polin, and Kirsten Ioannidis. The workgroup expressed their intent to ask the board for straw poll indicators on some of the bigger issues. There was a concern expressed that this will unduly influence the group and stop them from exploring all options. After discussion, it was decided to return to the idea of straw polls due to the timeline for this project.

Straw polls
Should Zones be recognized as part of the conference?
Four options were offered which the group stated were not all of the possibilities but all that they had the time to explore.

1. As existing plus
-Formalize into the organizational chart without making part of the representative system
-Integral part of world wide workshops
-Improved communication
♦ 7 preferred this option, and 1 preferred the current practice only.

2. As above plus
-Voiced and interaction at WSC in all non-business sessions.
♦ 4 board members preferred this option.

3. As above plus
-Discussion in business session (non-voting conference participant).
♦ No board members preferred this option.

4. As above plus voting right (full conference participant).
♦ 2 board members preferred this option.

A concern was expressed that the communication lost in a two year conference cycle is compounded with having only zonal reps. The combination of the two at the same time could have a serious negative impact. The international flavor and unity could be lost.

Seating at the World Service Conference
Suggestions were made to change the wording to say "to limit the seating to one representative – seat interchangeable", explain what an alternate is, and add something regarding the voting rights of RD and RDA's in new business." Workgroups will be asked to direction the group's discussion as well as the workgroups recommendations.

1. As existing, but 2 reps per region only (no 2nd alternate/mentor).
♦ 4 board members preferred this option.

2. As above plus voice and interaction in all sessions except business.
♦ 6 board members preferred this option.

3. As above including business sessions.
♦ No board members preferred this option.

4. Full participation.
♦ No board members preferred this option.

A comment was made that this should affect seating on the floor only and that we need to better explain what an alternate is. One board member wants voting of RDs and RDAs in new business.

Developing criteria for seating at the conference: 11 in favor, 1 abstention, 0 against.

Does the body believe that we should create an admissions panel: 10 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstentions.

Moratorium received no support at the 1999 WSC, however at the 1997 WSC it received 50% support. It was suggested that the moratorium should be for all regions, not just US, and one member felt the opposite.

The moratorium as written by the workgroup (US regions) – 7 in favor, 4 against, 1 abstention.

Moratorium for all new regions – 6 for, 11 against, 0 abstentions.

Conference work cycle and CAR – 14 in favor of revisiting Motion 6

The report from this workgroup in *NAWS News* will be short and provide no recommendations on these items. The workgroup and the board need time for more discussion.

Annual Meeting

At its annual meeting, the board is required to have elections and adopt corporate resolutions.

M/S/C   Michael McD., Lib E.   Unanimous
"To adopt the 1999-2000 Corporate resolutions as presented."

It was noted that nominations can be opened or current members can be elected as with a single vote. All EC members are willing to serve another term in their current position. The body requested that nominations be opened for separate elections and that the actual count of each vote not be announced unless the required majority of ten is not met.

Nominations opened for the Chairperson of the World Board. Michael McDermott nominated; no other nominations voiced, hearing no other nominations, nominations closed. <u>Michael McDermott re-elected as the Chairperson.</u>

Nominations opened for the Vice-Chairperson of the World Board. Jon Thompson nominated; no other nominations voiced, hearing no other nominations, nominations are now closed. <u>Jon Thompson re-elected as the Vice-Chairperson</u>.

Nominations opened for the Treasurer of the World Board. Susan Chess nominated, no other nominations voiced, hearing no other nominations, nominations are now closed. <u>Susan Chess re-elected as the Treasurer</u>.

Nominations opened for the Secretary of the World Board. Mario Tesoriero nominated; no other nominations voiced, hearing no other nominations, nominations are now closed. <u>Mario Tesoriero re-elected as the Secretary.</u>

The board then went into a sharing session, which is an informal session that is not recorded. The meeting closed at 6:00 pm with the Serenity Prayer.

<u>**Saturday 19 June 1999**</u>

World Board Members Present:
Susan Chess, David James, Bob Jordan, Stephan Lantos, Mary Kay Berger, Michael McDermott, Jon Thompson, Mario Tesoriero, Daniel Schuessler, Larry Roche, Cary Seltzer, Craig Robertson, Claudio Lemionet, and Tony Walters.

Not present: Jane Nickels, Bella Anderson, Lib Edmonds and Floyd Best.

Staff Present:
Anthony Edmondson, George Hollahan, Becky Meyer, Nancy Schenck, and Eileen Perez-Evans.

Board minutes and Executive Committee Record
March 1999 World Board minutes, page 30, under Israel, change sentence to reflect "has requested to be considered."

M/S/C   Mario T./ Bob J.   Unanimous
"To accept the March 1999 World Board minutes as amended."

April 1999 World Board minutes, page 7, change 'Resolution A Discussion' heading to 'Open Forum.'

M/S/C   Susan C./Stephan L.   Unanimous
"To approve the April 1999 World Board minutes as amended."

Jon went through the Executive Committee records since the conference. The EC has had three conference calls and focused on the creation of the workgroups and beginning protocols, the outline for the Internal Processes, *NAWS News,* and the ED evaluation tool.

The board briefly discussed the issue of motions presented to the board requiring examination, and decided that these motions will be reviewed at a later date. <u>No objections voiced from the board to the issue of correspondence being provided as FYI only. If any board members have specific questions regarding correspondence and the Action Item list they are to bring it up for discussion.</u>

The Action Item List was reviewed and amended. <u>The PR Plan was moved to the August board meeting agenda even though it is already being used</u>. This document needs to be as something that will always get worked on and be an ongoing item.

Executive Co-Directors Report
A written report that covers these items is provided to the board before each meeting.

Database
Database research information was summarized for the board. The current database is not Y2K compliant. Two software companies are being considered that are similar in function. It no longer seems to be prudent to pursue having software developed. Using a modified version of an existing product addresses the issue of upgrades, technology changes, etc. With a deadline of November, all available time will be used in modifications, installation and conversion of the existing data. The board requested that the contract have a 5-10 year upgrade service clause. <u>The entire direct expense, excluding staff time is expected to be $250,000. This is far above what was presented to the conference and will need to be communicated</u>. This purchase will be financed through a capital loan.

M/S/C   Susan C./Stephan L.   Unanimous
"To approve moving forward with the procurement of one of the major database software programs."

There was a confidential discussion about a possible infringement on the use of NA trademarks. The board had no objection to Executive Management pursuing legal action regarding this matter. The board will be kept updated.

NarcoticsAnonymous.com

Office staff has gone through a fairly long dialogue with a member who owns the domain name NarcoticsAnonymous.com. Up to this point this person is unwilling to surrender the site, despite continuous communication to discontinue using the name. We have also found that legally we can enforce our trademark – forcing him to stop using the name. This member also tried to register a group using his home address. The legal division is between someone using your name and you not liking it and someone using the name and causing public confusion. Recently we received two checks payable to the WSO that are intended for the site NarcoticAnonymous.com.   The member in question also wrote a letter regarding trying to register a group to get around the problem. The board supports activity to force this person to stop using the registered name and staff will seek legal advice and write the necessary letters for legal enforcement of the request to stop.

Workgroup Reports

Motion 21

Bob explained the report handed out to the board. The Motion 21 workgroup requested that the *NAWS News* mailing list be expanded to include area and regional literature committees, as well as LTC's, for the duration of 1999. This same mailing list will be used for their report on the literature survey, as well as a two page report in the *NA Way*. This is an addition of approximately 725 addresses. The board agreed to this change.

The background material used for workgroup is available to board members, however material is not to be distributed to anyone else.

The board agreed to there being two parts of the plan that is being developed.

Under heading Identification, change 'democratic', to 'open process'

'A Dilemma' - American English Language bias - members of the board challenged the need to state that there is an English language bias and the use of the term "driven". It was explained that the literature development process began in English speaking North America and is a conference driven process. Our goal should be to give non-English speaking NA communities the choice of participating or not, but the approval process for new literature will always be the WSC. Changes in the American English Basic Text will always affect non-English literature. Daniel shared that many non-English countries have no trust in a process that produces their literature without their integral participation. The challenge is to not overwhelm the translation process but at the same time continue to develop new literature. The board recognized the dilemma, no decision made.

Process for Service Material

Craig gave a report from this workgroup. It is his hope that once this project is completed there will be a process that is clear and understandable.

On the diagram that was provided, it was suggested to have the arrow from the 'Concept' box go to the 'World Board' box. Change the name of the 'working group' box to 'World Board Committee Working Group' box. Then add a bubble in between the 'World Board Committee Working Group' box and 'reviewers' box. Call that bubble 'working group'.

It was suggested that the review process for H&I material include for an example H&I committees, and PI committee members be utilized for PI material.

It was also suggested that the CAR not be used for service material approval and that an automatic five or seven year review process be included as is done for recovery material. World services needs to have the ability to ask the fellowship what they need as well as the ability to respond to those needs. The process needs to clarify what resource papers or bulletins can be created by the board and approved - not just focused on who approves.

Something will be created and sent out to the fellowship regarding 'adaptable' and 'non-adaptable' service material.

Is the CAR an option for approval for any service material? - 4 board members said yes. The sense is that most service material would not go into the CAR.

The board acknowledged recovery anniversaries for Claudio, Bella, Jane, Floyd, Susan, Becky, and Anthony.

WCNA 28
Cary gave a report on the recent trip that he, Claudio, Mike Polin, Anthony and Sylvia Cordero made to Cartagena to meet with the local host committee for WCNA 28. He noted that there still seems to be some fear from members in the fellowship regarding the safety for the Cartagena Convention. Claudio added that he thought the city was beautiful, the people were warm and friendly, and most importantly he felt very safe. He also shared that he feels the problem will be in conveying to the fellowship that Cartagena is safe city. The board discussed the pros and cons of having the convention in Cartagena, Colombia. Staff will need to continue to monitor the political situation in Colombia and come back to the board with information that will allow them to make a decision at the August meeting.

The deadline to make a decision regarding canceling this convention would be August to October, and a back up plan is being developed. All contracts will have some type of clause (open-ended), that will enable us to pull out in the event of political unrest.

Internal Guidelines
Michael summarized the workgroups report. The milestones for this project are the WSM and the release date of March 1, 2000. The EC has discussed the need for a separate meeting and will make a decision within two weeks. After an explanation of the outline, the board was asked to provide input in writing.

NA Way
The October issue is on track. Jane is writing an article that will hopefully express how the board went about creating an atmosphere of recovery in their meetings.

The NA Way Editorial point person agreed to include the survey results and Issue Discussion Topics as an insert with the October issue of the NA Way. The deadline date for the October issue is July 9.

Anthony asked if it was unreasonable for a 2 page space to be held in the event that the board needed to communicate relevant information to the fellowship? Craig stated no, as long as the NA Way Magazine deadlines are met, the magazine is not held up, and that there is notification far enough in advance so that the editorial staff does not end up scrambling looking for material, should be space not be needed.

CTF
The CTF will meet July 9-10 and a report will be given to the board prior to the August meeting.

WSC 1999 Discussion

The board discussed sharing their personal thoughts on the WSC elections/elections procedures with the fellowship. It may help the fellowship know how the board feels about the vacant board positions. The board has previously stated its ability to complete the tasks put before it with 18 members. A comment was made that there is no need to defend the boards' actions and a simple explanation would be more appropriate.

There should be a reminder that 24 was the suggested number not the must have number. Perhaps there could be a slot at the WS meeting for open, honest, discussion. The board could share the discussion that they have had. <u>The board voiced no objections to the above and to discussing this further in August.</u>

Orientation – need to explain about vote counters. The board needs to rethink the purpose of Orientation, what to expect for certain sessions, etc.

The current system to facilitate the conference may need some tweaking. Not sure that having two facilitators will make a difference. Maybe the board needs to have a more pro-active role. The facilitators are placed in a position of being asked questions about an agenda that they are not responsible for.

The other suggestions were headsets for everyone for the full week and to translate handouts at the conference into Spanish. The hours were far to long and became unproductive with board meetings being held past midnight. Shortening the number of days this year seems to have caused a crunch for time.

Issue Discussion topics for the year

The two topics this year are established. Will the board be helping to frame these discussions or write a paper? <u>This will be further discussed in August.</u>

The board agreed that the best way to help the fellowship with these types of discussions would be to provide a framework and information that will help hold discussions at a local level. The deadline for issue discussion papers is December 1.

Human Resource Panel

Michael updated the board regarding his meeting with the HRP, sharing that it was a good meeting as it allowed the HRP to share some feelings that needed to be shared with the board, as well as ask questions. <u>Board members whose terms expire in 2000 and are considering running again must submit a resume to the HRP by September 1st, 1999.</u>

The board discussed some of the points in the HRP's letter to the board. <u>It was suggested to include the HRP in an action group with the board in August.</u>

<u>Board members should send any input regarding the June 99 letter from the HRP to the Executive Committee by July 9.</u> All the input will be gathered and set to the HRP in one package.

The meeting adjourned at 6:45 pm.