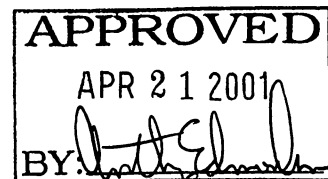


**Narcotics Anonymous World Services, Inc.  
World Board Meeting – 12-14 October 2000  
Approved Minutes**



**Thursday, 12, October**

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Present: Jon Thompson, Bob Jordan, Bella Blake, Lib Edmonds, Stephan Lantos, Ron Hofius, David James, Claudio Lemionet, Saul Alvarado, Tom McCall, Giovanna Ghisays, Tony Walters, Susan Chess, Michael McDermott, and Larry Roche

Not Present: Cary Seltzer, Daniel Schuessler, Craig Robertson, and Jane Nickels

Daniel and Craig arrive Thursday evening and Jane arrives Friday evening.

Staff: Becky Meyer, Elaine Adams, Eileen Perez-Evans, Donna Smylie, Anthony Edmondson, and Michael Lee.

Jon opened the meeting with a moment of silence followed by with the Serenity Prayer and a reading of the meditation for the day. Bella read the World Board General Meeting Guidelines.

### **Agenda**

The Publications Committee wants to include a discussion regarding resource needs. Project Ideas will be moved to Saturday.

### **Executive Committee Report**

#### **1. Executive Committee Reports**

Anthony reported recent occurrences of Non Profit Organizations being brought into litigation and the record of their meetings being used against them out of context.

The tapes of the World Board meetings have only been used by staff for reference. The recording of the board meetings and conference calls has always been an internal administrative action.

The board was asked to agree with a modification of how board meetings are recorded, which is to tape the meeting and when the record of the meeting is approved, the tape would be destroyed. It was the decision of the World Board to accept the recommended changes to how board meetings are recorded.

The Executive Committee will discuss the recording of conference calls at a future meeting or call.

#### **2. Action Item List**

##### **a. Correspondence**

Bob summarized proposed changes to the correspondence process. The board would receive the correspondence log, and a full correspondence booklet monthly, with general World Board and committee sections. Correspondence that is input will not be included in the book but forwarded to committees/files. However, correspondence that contains both input and is a letter with other issues will be included for board review. Correspondence needing board attention will be sent immediately. The challenge will be committee specific correspondence. Correspondence is sent to the board so that they are aware of the communications addressed to the board, not necessarily for a decision.

**b. UK Letter**

This situation has been going on for 8-9 years. It is not a particular area, but members from different areas, who call themselves the East Anglia area or the Recovery in Action group. These members are going into correctional facilities and treatment centers - holding panels and it seems to be confusing the newer members regarding who/what is NA. This group is alleged to have distributed the baby blue, and has been confrontational at times. This situation has long become a concern for the local UK regional members.

Several months ago, the RD from UK wrote a letter regarding the activities of the East Anglia area. What has been occurring has now turned into a feud between the region and area. There have been meetings between the two in hopes for a resolution, with no results. UK delegate asked that the WB respond to his letter - regarding the ongoing issues.

At WCNA 28 Anthony spoke with Peter, and advised Peter that the World Board always directs parties to try and resolve the issues internally; giving ideas on how to accomplish this. He also told Peter that most of the time, time is the best healer, however, in this instance that has not been the case. At WCNA 28, Peter again asked that the board write a letter that somehow addresses the issues. The UK RSC is expecting a response from the board that specifically deals FIPT.

For the response to the UK, the board agreed that it should be neutral, point out the desire to see unity, quote the 1<sup>st</sup> Tradition. At the same time, make sure the letter expresses that the board/WSO is available to assist in facilitating a resolution, give them a beginning to help bring about a resolution. All the questions in Peter's letter will be addressed.

**c. Travel Policy – Sue L email**

The primary issue in her letter is the travel policy. Sue seems to have read the policy in TWGWSS and not the reimbursement policy which is attached to the budget each year when presented to WSC. Sue's questions appear to be "is there written policy for travel and if so, is the WB violating it?" The board agreed that the Executive Committee and staff would develop a response to Sue L, RD Northern California. Sue's letter and response will be sent to the board in the following correspondence packet.

The board needs to discuss the travel policy in TWGWSS at a future meeting.

The board agreed to continue receiving the zonal forum minutes in the correspondence book.

The board discussed the Michael K letter; and agreed that David and the Executive Committee will work together on a response.

**3. WCNA 28**

Executive Director report contained the more pertinent WCNA 28 information. Many thanks were sent from members who attended the convention. The financial reconciliation will be sent to the board in the near future. The board will receive tapes from the service workshops at WCNA 28; Giovanna and Saul's will be Spanish. Some board members shared their experience of WCNA 28. Giovanna presented a plaque from the Colombian region to the board.

**4. Human Resource Panel and Resume Form**

The World Pool was originally thought to be a way throw out a huge net and grab or open a door wide to bring experience from members in that world services was previously unable to find. It doesn't seem to be operating that way. It seems to have become one more administrative loop for members to try to get through. Jon went over the HRP items in the World

Board packet and informed the board that the gathered input will be discussed during the face-to-face EC and HRP November meeting. Any additional written input for the HRP or World Pool resume should be sent to Eileen.

#### Input

- The list given to the Publications Committee for people with translations experience included a lot of the people that are already on contract with the WSO, which is why they have submitted a resume
- The pool resume is insufficient for projects
- List provided for writers was too thick and difficult to sort information
- One form for everything doesn't work
- The board wants to utilize the pool, but the resume is insufficient
- Resume should contain more detailed questions about service in NA - experience
- Expand check boxes and explain the experience you have
- Resume should have more of a flavor of NA Service
- Education questions are intimidating. There are many that don't have extensive education but do have extensive WS experience
- People find the process intimidating and many who are willing to help do not submit a resume because it seems self serving
- Questions "why is service fun," and "what do you like most and least..." are questions that are not helpful, this would also include the question about hobbies
- Don't call the form "Resume" change the name to something else
- Expand on the interests and why
- "Most recent service experience" should say "most pertinent...." You want to end up with information like world services, etc. not coffee person, GSR, etc.
- There also has to be a way to bring in people with a minor experience and still work with them with people with a lots of experience
- Ask questions in ways that assists getting information out of people who doesn't really know how to express themselves
- The candidate profile does not show any of the check box information
- Need to find a way to get away from using the same people all the time, need to increase pool
- This needs to be something the board needs to help fix.
- Are we throwing good money after insufficient data service
- Need to find way to sort when education is an important criterion as well as when it isn't
- Try defining what the job is first, possibly making easier to define the resume. Long term planning would need to happen for this to work
- Visualize where we want to be
- Encourage everyone to fill out resume
- Process seems to be the problem not the form
- No form will replace the value of getting the information from an actual person

- Create a short form that gathers some basic information, allows you to expand on it, for newly registered trusted servant
- The resource needs to come from the board; the resume really is not the point here.
- Add percentage so that people can include the % to their to the part of other languages. Example: Language: Spanish      Speak: 50%
- The RG and TG envisioned the board selecting people for projects
- The board needs to engage in a discussion with the fellowship about this issue. Communicating honestly what is working and what is not working.

### Selection Process

- If you don't know the people on the list then the information is not good
- If searching for a translator, information is not useable as it does not show the native language
- Include the candidate profile with lists
- The selection process needs to be able to pull a small group from a for example 10,000 people pool. Example: the project is a presentation paper at a Public Relations event, your criterion is 'writing'. You want to end up professional writers
- At some point, a broader discussion regarding the process needs to happen, because it is still not working. It should be another loop people have to jump through
- HPR has to begin understanding the different range to needs. Selection process input and the sorting process between board & HRP
- Is this how we see the large net gathering resources – a requirement in order to be eligible for as a resource for a project or should it just be a resource?
- Some people provide a particular prospective and they are not in the pool, so does this mean we they cannot be used? According to the process, we have now this is the fact.
- Do we use the people we know have the experience or do we just make do with what we have

### Executive Co-Directors Report

#### 5. General Update

- The board had no objections to the recommendation: the board will no longer be required to asked for approval for an Executive Management recommendation for reproduction of a WSO inventory production item since the Executive Co-Directors are already charged with the administration the office. This came up when the current stock of the Basic Text on CD was depleted.
- There are 2500 copies of Miracles Happen left in inventory and when this quantity is gone reprints of the book will not be done.
- There were no objections from the board to removing our audit from the website and replace it with a button that requests the audit from the WSO.  
The January 2001 World Board agenda will include time for the Auditor to present the report to the board.
- The board's attention was drawn to the business trends and patterns that reflect that literature sales are down against projections, donations up, which helped the year,

and that last years experience is not being mirrored this year. Executive Committee will soon need to focus on the Business Plan outline for the next 5 years.

*The Step Working Guide* sales are leveling off more quickly than anticipated and the office not producing a new product within the next 8 years is alarming. We will have to rely on other revenue sources during that meantime.

There has been a bump in sales for our book length literature pieces from Hazelden for 1999-2000. Their current CEO dismantled their marketing focus on treatment, and correction industries, however it can be expected that the new incoming CEO will refocus marketing in those areas, which may affect us.

Since attending the NADCP, Michael has been receiving Hazelden pamphlets, and noticed other fellowship conference approved literature advertised. Believes NAWS should at least start a dialog, and think about marketing our products through Hazelden. Printing and distributing literature worldwide will be further discussed at a future board meeting.

NAWS will need to look at creating a system that survives with more emphasis on donation and/or find a way to get our literature out to more members.

## **6. Database Project**

All information included in the Executive Director report. No questions asked.

## **7. Surveys**

Anthony provided a brief report about implementing the decision to hire a statistics professional to process the St. Louis, San Jose, and Cartagena conventions surveys. The board previously approved this decision some time ago. Each batch of convention surveys will be processed separately and a report produced. The board approved an unbudgeted expenditure to complete the survey data.

## **8. Bulletin Board**

A workgroup has been working on the conference participant bulletin board and will forward a recommendation soon. Upon request, Anthony will forward a specific Internet link. Workgroup is Ron, Craig, Paul, and Danny.

The board was agreed to delegate the responsibility of completing the Conference Participant Bulletin Board to the Executive Committee in order to have it up and running by the end of the year.

## **9. Website Report**

This report will be given to the board as soon as possible.

## **10. Fellowship Intellectual Property Trust Literature List**

FIPT is a tool to protect our property. The FIPT is very complicated, and has always confused the fellowship. Fellowship approved means that the piece of literature cannot be adapted by the fellowship and indicates recovery literature. Conference Approved means it is adaptable and considered service material.

Recovery material vs. service material, and their audience is another quandary. This brings us to what is the definition of a group. The service material process adopted by the conference this year gives a different definition than the FIPT, and the new definition means that something like IP #26 would have to go into the CAR to get revision/updates made to it.

Two pieces right now that are categorized as conference approved literature but have chapters in them that have been expanded on to create a separate piece from them and these pieces are fellowship approved.

## Suggestions:

- Expand the fellowship-approved definition
- Ask the conference to remove the problem areas and make separate booklets and in the booklet make references to where those sections used to be
- To create a new category for service pamphlets so they can all be put out on the table of a group
- Make GTLS adaptable except for the fellowship approved portions
- FIPT Designation is the only issue that needs to be addressed.

There were no objections to categorizing the GTLS as "conference approved" but it contains the group booklet and the 12 concepts, which are fellowship approved. This will need to be clearly identified when reporting to the fellowship. There were no objections to the IP 26 being changed to fellowship approved.

**M/S/C Michael M/Susan C "To accept the FIPT list as amended" unanimous.**

**11. Annual Report**

The board will get a hard copy of the Annual Report in the next 10 days; with 5 days from the time the report is received to submit input.

Due to the current staff levels, the production of NAWS News may be later than the timeline indicates.

A discussion followed concerning the status of current legal proceedings by the corporation. Without objection, the Executive Committee was approved to make decisions regarding the settlement of the lawsuit with Creative Arts and any further legal action with Watershed.

The meeting closed and the board went into a sharing session, which is an informal session of the board that is not recorded

**Friday, 13 October**

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Present: Jon Thompson, Bella Blake, Lib Edmonds, Larry Roche, Ron Hofius, David James, Claudio Lemionet, Saul Alvarado, Tom McCall, Giovanna Ghisays, Tony Walters, Susan Chess, Michael McDermott, Stephan Lantos, Daniel Schuessler, and Craig Robertson

Not Present: Cary Seltzer, Bob Jordan, and Jane Nickels.

Staff: Becky Meyer, Elaine Adams, Eileen Perez-Evans, Anthony Edmondson, and Michael Lee.

Jon opened the meeting with a moment of silence followed by with the Serenity Prayer and Susan read the meditation for the day. Bella read the general meeting guidelines.

Anthony made the following announcements:

- Russian and Greek key tags are now available.
- A call has been received from Hazelden requesting permission to sell Miracles Happen. This will be further discussed on Saturday.
- Bob Jordan has taken ill and will not be available to participate at today's board meeting.

As a standard, anything coming from each committee can go directly to the board. If it is intended to go to the fellowship, it should go to the Executive Committee first.

**Fellowship Relations Committee****12. Upcoming Conference Cycle**

Michael recapped points in the FRC Report in book 2. The FRC met in Cartagena where tentative dates for meetings and conference calls were outlined.

**a. Worldwide Workshop**

The Worldwide Workshop model is experimental and will be kept simple. 5 – 6 workshops planned with 3 in North America and 3 outside. Workshops focus would be to foster interaction among the fellowship, providing an avenue for the World Board and fellowship to develop a partnership, as well as an opportunity for the different issues to be presented to the fellowship. How and what is presented will depend on who our audience is, and this will be determined by the location, i.e. communities' local needs/developmental issues, etc. Workshop content would be recovery and service oriented, interactive, educational, an opportunity for sharing. Hope to bring people that would normally not attend a world service meeting.

Timetable: plan on beginning communicating outline to fellowship, Regional Delegate, regions, and zones soon. Want to gather fellowship thoughts. October 2000 – January 2001: letters will be sent out, and hope to have an idea of what the responses will be. NAWS News will be used. Hope to have an idea of Worldwide Workshop content at least by April 01. The Conference Report will be used to communicate to the fellowship in April, and by no means think a finished product will be available at this time. Have to remember that this will also be crunch time. Timelines are not set in stone but do want to start by July 01. WS participation will still be present at zonal forums.

**World Board Input**

- Like the purposeful variety of types in the first set of Worldwide Workshops. Appreciate the acknowledgment of the different needs for different communities. How this is communicated will define the interest in Worldwide Workshop.

- Reminder: that communications is still the World Board priority. Do not want this work to fall into the black hole.
- Perception of this is going to be a WS traveling meeting. The fellowship needs to be informed that this is not what this is. Also, that Worldwide Workshop is not a WS meeting.
- Fellowship confused: Communicated that zones that Worldwide Workshop are not connected but a separate entity. Having a Worldwide Workshop in a zone is not a zonal forum or replacement for world service attendance at zonal forums. We need to also communicate that we may ask for assistance from zones but are not trying to create a zonal forum meeting.
- How this is reported to get a flavor of the direction without giving the impression that we no longer need their input. Frame questions in a way to not be a setup for certain answers.

The board discussed and decided it will be a standard practice of the board to not fund RD's to stand alone Worldwide Workshop.

Question posed to the board: Is Unity Day more appropriate at a WS meeting or Worldwide Workshop? No decision was reached. More discussion will occur in January.

The board agreed that FRC should be communicating with the fellowship as soon as possible.

The board agreed with how FRC is proceeding forward with Worldwide Workshop and that Worldwide Workshop are not WS meetings.

The board as a whole will be responsible to prioritize contents of workshops; this would include committee presentations, etc.

Evaluating the success Worldwide Workshop still needs to be discussed and decided upon – perhaps be a meeting at the end of the conference cycle.

The former CTF members will send FRC some written input on how to accomplish this.

b. Handbooks and material for the fellowship

Originated: it was a conference-mandated action on some handbooks, there were those known to have problems for example the Events handbook which is antiquated. Then we got into all the problems with service books, approval, and their approval process. Conference then approved the board to enter into all the above arenas and come up with solutions for them. Because of the title of the service material evaluation project, it has become to mean handbook review and revision only. It was meant to be the broadest possible approval for the board to look at what service material we have, what the fellowship is asking for and/or needs, and how world service can best provide that information. The board as a whole will need to prioritize what is most important; the overall resource allocation is no different than for any other project of the board. It is a general evaluation project for each group.

Some preliminary evaluations have already been done on existing handbooks, and there are some rudimentary evaluations that staff can do to provide to the committees. FRC's role is to work on the treasurer's handbook and the train the trainer material. The Guardians and FRC will start to have some dialog on Issue Discussion topics. Will soon start looking at creating workgroups for this assignment.

c. Communications Standards

The committee's priorities were discussed; conference mandated project with timeline vs. the board communication priorities. This led the board into communications standards project discussion. FRC's discussions concluded that this work/report would happen over the next 3-board meetings.

**d. Seating of Regions**

Between now and April a workgroup will be created and by April 2001 plan on having intense and philosophical discussions on what the criteria is for the seating of regions. FRC's will be sending the Executive Committee recommendations for the composition of the workgroup for the seating of regions. It was clarified that "If you were not a participating seated conference at the last 3 World Service Conferences, then your region is no longer considered a seated conference participant."

**e. Committed Motions**

Rules of Order in TWGWSS – There were no objections from the board to the preliminary direction from the FRC to not include the Rules of Order as a CAR motion.

Motion#9: summary on what has been discussed will be prepared and presented on the GTLS. A couple of board members felt that this is something needs to be included in the CAR.

WB needs to make a GTLS decision re including a summary. Earlier it was agreed that it was not something we wanted to put in the CAR. We want to know what the board wants to do regarding the summary (yes no or get research together and come back to us). The board agreed to have FRC's write up a summary to the status of the GTLS summary; if they find there are problems they will bring this to the board.

**Events Committee****13. Report on plans for conference cycle**

Lib went over what she expects to get from the board in this session.

**14. Site Selection Process for world conventions**

The Events committee is asking for input on the proposed solution for site selection process portion of the report, i.e. how to make the process more workable, is it ok for the committee to not consider a site in the beginning, or not. Index chart behind report is a way to give the board some visual of what information Mike Polin receives. The index are items used to rate a location for site selection; comparison is by other cities bidding. Feasibility issues include things like does the site city (region) have the ability to provide the necessary needs of a convention in North America, this changes depending on if the convention is in North America and outside US.

There were no objections approving point 1 – 4 under Proposed Solution to Selection Process:

- 1) When considering whether the potential city has sufficient meeting and hotel facilities, prioritize cities that have the ability to handle a convention that is 10-20% larger than we currently project the future event to be to allow for additional growth.
  - 2) When considering the number of meetings in the region, or surrounding NA communities, consider the size of the pool volunteers needed to support the event.
  - 3) When considering potential attendance at the event, factor in members access to event; airport access for international travelers; and the numbers of potential attendees that may attend the convention from 6-10 hours driving radius around the site.
  - 4) Identify and eliminate cities that for a variety of reasons the board is simply not willing to seriously consider, including but not limited to issues like, the city is not viewed as an attractive vacation destination, or we have already held a convention in that city, etc.
- The will be a conference call at the end of October to review information gathered on the cities and see if there are any that can be eliminated before site visits.
  - The November meeting will include: role of host committee, and the purpose and philosophy of world conventions.

- January board meeting we will be requesting more time for our report.
- The committee will request an additional meeting in February 2001 to discuss event rotation.
- The committee will eventually need about 4 pool members, and will put in the request to the EC when they are needed.

The board is to send any input on Event Committee items to Mike Polin.

### **Public Relations Committee**

Anthony explained the document the board just received from Donna Markus. One of the things in this report is about some of the deficiencies; this will come back to the board after discussion.

#### **15. Initial discussion on plans for conference cycle**

Craig reported on the conference calls and the meetings had thus far, and the group has reviewed the history of Public Relations. We are trying to build a better foundation and come to a consensus on what Public Relations means to us. We are taking our time in order to produce quality work since this committee has no conference driven action. There are far reaching aspects. We have been focusing on our priorities:

- 1) PR Implementation, Orientation package, internal for board members
- 2) Frame discussions for PR philosophy and purpose and develop PR statement
- 3) Evaluate PI/Phoneline and H&I handbooks. Identify the criteria list (including work plan) for WP members for the Executive Committee
- 4) Develop long-range PR plan
- 5) Event Presentation to 2002 (deliberately listed under long range as well as a separate task)

Tentative plan is to have a face-to-face meeting in December; draft a Public Relations statement for the boards (Executive Committee) review and figure out where are we going with the handbooks. A long-range PR plan is to be developed.

It was suggested that the committee review our literature, before writing a statement. Frame a discussion in order for the board to make the decisions more easily.

Craig brought up the Issue about drug courts, and how were going assist the fellowship in educating them about drug court. Many NA communities are getting an influx of drug court people in their meetings and are not sure how to deal with it. It was noted that the committee would need the boards input and support.

FYI Public Relations committee is planning to 2 day meeting in December 2000; the objectives of this meeting will be to bring to the board in on the January discussion on philosophy, and the principles of public relations efforts. Board asked to send input to their agenda items by the end of November.

### **Guardians**

#### **16. Discussion on plans for conference cycle**

There has only been one face to face meeting but not all the members were there and only had one conference call.

On the conference call, the committee talked about what the role of a Guardian should be and what they should be doing. Also did not know if they should be a reactive group to what is going on in the fellowship, or a proactive group. The board's consensus was that the Guardians should be both proactive and will sometimes have to be reactive.

Philosophical Issues

Any philosophical discussion that comes up should have Guardians input. The Guardians have the responsibility of framing the discussions and then forward philosophical discussion to the board. The group was created to focus on philosophical issues. The board would like to see the Guardians lead them in a discussion about the Twelve Concepts. The board will benefit from it and so will the fellowship. The board also noted that no time frames would be put on the Guardians when it comes to philosophical issues. It was suggested that maybe the board could pick a weekend and only focus on this.

Please forward any input.

#### **17. NA Way-planning meeting**

The Guardians will discuss this on Sunday.

#### **18. Bulletins and position papers**

Bulletins will be discussed on Sunday; something will be framed to send out to the fellowship regarding issue discussion topics.

#### **19. July Minutes Approval**

**M/S/C Michael M, Tony W “to accept the July 2000 minutes as amended.” Unanimous**

#### **20. Miscellaneous**

Executive Committee discussed having another meeting in March 2001 to discuss and focus on the World Board interaction with the fellowship. World Board needs to send input to the Executive Committee in order to finalize in November. The WB is to forward ASAP the dates that do not work for them for March 2001.

#### **Sharing Session**

The meeting closed at 5pm, and the board then went into a sharing session, which is an informal session that is not recorded.

**Saturday, 14 October**

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Present: Jon Thompson, Bob Jordan, Bella Blake, Lib Edmonds, Larry Roche, Ron Hofius, David James, Claudio Lemionet, Saul Alvarado, Tom McCall, Giovanna Ghisays, Tony Walters, Susan Chess, Michael McDermott, Stephan Lantos, Daniel Schuessler, Craig Robertson and Jane Nickels.

Not Present: Cary Seltzer

Staff: Becky Meyer, Elaine Adams, Eileen Perez-Evans, Anthony Edmondson, Michael Lee, Steve Sigman, and Donna Smylie.

Jon opened the meeting with a moment of silence followed by with the Serenity Prayer and Tony read the meditation for the day.

**Publications Committee****21. Report of Meeting and plans for the conference cycle**

The Publications report is in book 2, page 25. The committee separated the issues of the content of literature and the literature development process for the purposes of their discussions. They will address the purpose, focus and content on NA literature before dealing with the process. The work for the committee is daunting and could get very complicated.

The committee discussed ways of doing business, since they do not want to fall right back into the old ways of doing things. They would like to really engage the fellowship and get them excited about the work. They would like NA literature to have a universal tone. Timeline for the Publication Committees work was handed out and the items in red show when something will be presented and/or need a decision

**a. Literature Development Plan, Sponsorship, and Literature Process**

The sponsorship project has specific work and timelines attached to it. The expectations for the literature development process are not as definite. The literature development process should be a vehicle of ideals to establish the outline. It is apparent that we need to find a way to encourage communities that only currently participate in the development of literature via translations. Believe that this time will afford the opportunity for all of the fellowship to engage in the question of 'what do we want out of literature', and provide us with input.

The committee is proposing that there be not be a motion in next years CAR, but instead a progress report be provided for the fellowship. The upcoming report about Sponsorship should talk about the possibility of doing things different, an opportunity for all to provide input instead of doing business as usual. This communication would be from the board, 3-4 pages, simple, included in the NAWS mailing, and translated.

Question posed to the board "Do we believe there needs to be a motion in the CAR or is a report sufficient?"

- If the is not the opportune time to do anything then when is it, and if not now who.
- In order to come up with something that appeals to all cultures the system must be changed, acknowledge the differences, and make it public and go from there – raise the awareness. There is a gap between radical and practice ideas. Who is our customer, and from where is the demand? The problem is not fulfilling the needs.
- Are we trying to recreate something by sending out a report and invitation to the fellowship? This was done before and it did not work. Old argument of what we need with our literature comes up. Publication Committee should look at what is our purpose and function, what is it that we really want (fellowship) what is the vision and

for the purpose for the publication committee. There is information to refer to, don't have to start from scratch

Steve responded that what was just shared is why the committee wanted the board to know they were getting away from it, and that really only wanted to give the individual member the opportunity to participate in NA literature. Clarified that what they wanted to convey was that instead of discussing process, we would like to solicit ideas about concepts and issues for Sponsorship. In the meantime, the board and committee have to have discussions and along the way we forward these discussions to the fellowship. Process discussions will happen in January 2001.

- It was pointed out that the board should have some talks before the fellowship is engaged. Letter could thank all committees... and at the same time want questions answered from the fellowship. Being much more inclusive.
- The board asked if they support the idea of the fellowship creating NA literature. The board has to answer that fundamental question. If so, then you have the old system with literature committees, review drafts, etc. We need to think about 'how to write material that can be translated?' We should use the website if it is decided to ask a series of questions, and translate the questions as well. Everyone needs to remember that something for process needs to start soon because once the communications is started the ball has begun to roll.
- Wording in motion goes against what is noted in the GTLS. It was suggested that the letter support the wording in the GTLS.
- Line by-line input is not productive. Concern is that because there is already a motion, you have to create a timeline, and that something should be in the CAR. The work also has to fit into a 4-year plan. WSO receiving many questions about Sponsorship.
- Process and content separation was a good idea. Concerns raised about literature development in NA, and that an error when the CAR contained the statement that the board would develop material on Sponsorship. Feels the fellowship interpreted this as old process is back, and the ball has already started to roll.

The fellowship role in the process needs to be addressed. Informing the fellowship of it's role which could be to generate raw content (initial input), but not involved in a line-by-line input.

- In order to capture the culture diversity of our fellowship we need to allow through translations process.
- It is important that the process to approve a piece is the same, but that the development is different. The invitation/what to bring list is a good idea. People should be the ones that are thanked not committees.
- Capturing cultural diversity is difficult because of the set up structure. Is the production of generic literature possible? Is it possible to see beyond one's own backyard, and at the same time see own.
- What the literature should say and who is responsible for it will be a challenge. The literature process difficulties have never been shared with the fellowship. Board should look at how to inform the fellowship of this – today's reality, because of the passion from our members for literature.
- Principle of what is share in our literature is adhered to in conceptual fidelity. Addiction is not different in other countries.
- Board should have their own discussions first on what the content of Sponsorship – what.

- Key word is "wanted." The consensus problem needs to be made clearer; i.e. that the consensus problem brings out the majorities needs and that is what needs gets met. Literature for non-English speaking communities is what is left out because they are not the majority. Fellowship should be re-educated on the literature development process, to give a better picture of past problems were.

The consensus of the board was to not have a motion in the CAR for the literature plan, but instead a report would be included for discussion. Agreed that discussions about process at this point outside of what is being looked for is premature. Board will look at the overall issue of literature this year.

Consensus of the board is that the fellowship engaged via questions. NAWS News will be used as the vehicle for reporting; 4 pages. The board clearly recognized that this is the work of the board. This report will clearly delineate 'not saying create a committee, but at the same time encourage input by getting out of the box to send us ...'

December 1, 2000 there will be information sent to the fellowship regarding sponsorship.

b. Resource needs.

Committee is not sure how to clearly identify members with the visioning skills needed for the January meeting; whom do we know that has been involved and has that skill. A letter stating the specific qualities will be forward to the Executive Committee. A response has to be known because this meeting is happening in January. The board asked to forward input on members who may have the qualifications noted by end of day today.

Qualifications: visioning for the future, understand the new WS structure or have previous WS experience, understand cultural sensitivity issues, open minded

The board agreed to communicate the truth regarding the challenges to the HRP.

The board agreed on delegating the responsibility for the Publications Committees request to the EC, and upon approval, the information will be forward the board.

c. Selection of member for Translations Evaluations workgroup

This group is only to work on evaluating conceptual fidelity of the glossary and pamphlet #1, *Who, What, How and Why*.

Other individuals considered: Walter J., Dr. Bob, Dora De La S. (in pool), Ralph K., and Sylvia M., everyone but Dora is not n the pool.

There were no objections from the board to Dora De La S. working on the Translations Evaluation group with Giovanna Ghisays (World Board) and Eddie E.

The were no objections from the board to allow the Publications Committee the latitude to go outside the World Pool to find someone then bring that name to the Executive Committee.

Staff is to locate Jim Shaw NE input to Sponsorship and give to Donna Smylie.

## 22. Travel Itineraries and Lodging

The board agreed to forward their individual travel itineraries and lodging requests to Eileen as soon as possible whenever traveling for a board or committee meeting.

## 23. Project Ideas

- #19 on the Action item list;  
Barry O: "To discuss the First Tradition and how being of service in NA allows a member or/and groups to be a bigger part of the whole as a fellowship and ideas to get members involved."

Recommendation: assign to the Guardians for a bulletin or some considerations

➤ #20...

Mats-Einar: create Internet Guidelines: guidelines for the internet, due to anarchy, and violation of traditions/copyright, email groups already exists and are experiencing severe problems.

Recommendation: Internet guidelines-response to Mat will be current web guidelines and we will make sure all issues are addressed. This will be added to the other Internet issues.

Saul requests that the board discuss the issue of the Internet in the future.

➤ #21...

Bosmat N: Add language in TWGWSS to help clarify the roles and responsibilities for the RD and RDA, as well as specify a term for each position.

Recommendation: That this be added to FRC's list of items, and the language should be included in GTLS and not in TWGWSS.

➤ Project Idea #22-training guide-Fellowship Development Plan FRC's issue.

Recommendation: Delegated to FRC, it will be a training guide for Fellowship Development Plan.

There were no objections from the board to the Executive Committee recommendations to the project ideas received.

## 24. One more things

### Bahrain Trip and ICAA

Craig recapped points from the written report, and thanked the board for the opportunity to be a part of this trip. He shared about how some members in Bahrain did not have much trust in World Services. A kind of an action group was done with members, to help focus and remind everyone the reason for the meeting; "Why they were there." Common goals were revisited throughout the trip, which helped to pull everyone together. WS should continue to stay involved with the Bahrain fellowship, and have hands on connection to keep continuity maybe return in 2001.

Remember that all input on committee things needs to go to Eileen and she will distribute it.

### Hazelden

The board informed that Hazelden is requesting to sell *Miracles Happens*. Executive Committee briefly discussed the intent during a lunch meeting, and decided to discuss the point of reprinting or not further. Anthony stated that due to a lack of ???? on the book, it is a fair trade item. So, Haledon could purchase the book and end up selling it anyway.

Boards concerned about spending time on a discussion regarding reprinting when we when asked by the conference we repeatedly said no we would not reprint the book when it ran out. This could damage the board integrity with the fellowship being there strong feelings about the book and it having tradition violations.

It was suggested that the board read the book and make a determination on whether the book has tradition violations or not. The facts need to be laid out because there is only certain amount left. Anthony will call Hazelden and the board will be kept informed.

### Activities and Deadlines – Now and the January 2001 WB meeting

In the next four weeks:

- Publications letter
- FRC's letter, invitations on Worldwide Workshop

- Annual report
- *NAWS News*
- Old standards of board books are now changed

**25. Travel Decisions**

The Executive Committee announced the following travel decisions that were made over the weekend.

- Susan C and Bob J as travelers to the Southern Zonal Forum meeting in Hurst, Texas.
- Anthony Edmondson to the Canadian branch office and then on to New York to meet Becky Meyer to renew UN credentials and visit the AA General Service Office.
- Denied a request to participate in the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration/PI Workshop in Montevideo, Uruguay but will have a phone hook up as requested with staff involvement
- Mike Polin will attend the PCMA Annual Conference in Miami, Florida

**26. Closed Session for Personnel**

The board went into a closed session.

**Sharing Session**      The board went into an informal sharing session.