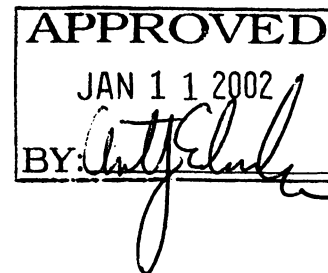**Approved Minutes**
Narcotics Anonymous World Services, Inc.
World Board Meeting – 4-6 October 2001

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

Not present: Jane Nickels, Daniel Schuessler and Cary Seltzer

Staff: Anthony Edmondson, Elaine Adams, Eileen Perez-Evans, Michael Lee, and Jeff Gershoff

Thursday 4 October

Action Group

Meeting was opened with a moment of silence followed by the reading of *Just for Today* and then the Serenity Prayer.

The board then reviewed its operating rules and moved into an action group

Review of Agenda

The board has been given to the end of the day today to advise Steve of any sponsorship concepts they want to discuss.

Executive Directors Report

Financial Update

The budgeted financial targets for the first year have been met. The number of literature orders processed fell under 800 in September for the first time in a long time. This created a focus on financial information changes to expenditures will have to be made if the income numbers fall. This is in response to the expectation that the general slowdown in the U.S economy will eventually affect us. Receivables, payables, inventory and cash balances are on a month-to-month watch for a downturn. However, some capital equipment purchases are being made now because the money is available and was in excess from last year's budget.

It is too early to tell what the situation is with donations since we are only in the first period of a new financial year. September donations did not meet budget and overall there seems to be a downward trend in donations. Donations through the first quarter will be watched to determine if some action is necessary.

- There was a suggestion for Executive Management to look at changing the manner in which NAWS reports its financial status to the fellowship; where the numbers are not so prominent.

- If the extended NAWS News is approved by the board it was suggested that a section be created that provides an explanation of the budget (as it reads now it is confusing) and includes donation information.

The board will forward any suggestions on the PowerPoint financial snapshot.

Recovery Literature on the web

There is a concern with *NAWS News* being utilized as a way to report our intent to post literature on the web.

NAWS News was going to be used because it is translated into 6 languages and could be used as a way to inform the fellowship of our intent. It is NAWS communication to the fellowship for all other matters. Anthony asked what would be done if a community stated that they did not want to WSO posting the literature in their language. It was stated that because the WSO is the sole trustee of NA recovery literature and believes that only the publisher has the legal right to post any literature on the Internet.

The board agreed that *NAWS News* would be used to notify the fellowship about our intent to post literature, however a letter is to be the direct communication that advises the community about the posting of literature in a particular language and for the community to let us know if they are/are not prepared.

Basic Text Software

The board was shown a program that uses the Basic Text as a tool to teach how to read. The program takes and creates a series of smart tags to a phonics program, gives definitions for words, gives sounds of letters, and translates the word. There would be a conversion expense of $1500 or $2000. The flat cost would be $4 or $5 per copy of the CD.

- The program seems like a good program, however, our primary purpose questioned. Interested to know thoughts—is this outside of our primary purpose or if this is along the same lines of Braille... making our literature available.

- What is percentage of people that are addicts, cannot read, and have computers?
  Anthony responded that yes, you are speaking of a particular population, but if you sponsor someone who cannot read this provides an avenue.

- There are more people than just people in treatment centers that could use this. There's some good will involved that needs to be taken into consideration.

- Believes this is a great tool having had the had the experience of working with a sponsee with limited reading skills reading the Basic Text and having to use a dictionary.

- The program serves our primary purpose if it gets one person clean.

- There is high illiteracy problem in New Zealand as well as other countries and this would greatly help.

- IF this were to be pursued—hopes that this would only be distributed through NA and not any other illiteracy program.

- Affiliation and perception questioned, seems somewhat cultish "come to NA and we can teach you how to read." How would the product be packaged? This is almost distasteful. What step-reading group will this help, will a computer be made available at every meeting? Yes, this is a neat program, but this is not NA.

- Steve stated that we have tapes for those that do not have the ability to read. Believes this program is a social service function that NA does not provide.

- If a decision is made to go with this product will it also be translated?

Anthony stated that the software was only presented to see if the board wanted to pursue further. The views presented here today are enough to question the validity of pursuing further. Three board members would still like Anthony to pursue getting more information.

The board agreed to have the Guardians frame a philosophical discussion about: how does this proposal fits or does not fit in relation to primary purpose, affiliation, and translation issues.

Business Plan and FDP Update

The BPG will have a meeting in February. The WSO is still using the current plan.

Executive Committee

Approval of World Board Minutes

April 2001

Page 11, APF report; remove *meets*

Page 15 'Anthony objected to creating a separate edition"

M/S/C/ Lib Edmonds/Tony Walters
"To approve the April World Board minutes as corrected."   **Unanimous**

July 2001

Page 38, remove sentence 'that the board agreed with that process as explained by Steve"

Page 62, where it says that Jane explained... Michael asks about what gets in and out of the minutes, because he wonders why some comments made by others are and are not included in the record.

M/S/C/ Michael McDermott/Stephan Lantos
"To approve the July 2001 world board minutes as amended."   **Unanimous**

EC Report

Some of our customers were asked if there was a preference to having a single voice or multiple voices on the audio version of the Basic Text. Majority preferred the multiple voices, e.g. like the *It Works...* audio which offers more of a variety.

The board supported Anthony further researching multiple voices for the audio Basic Text.

January and March 2002 WB Meetings

The EC had lengthy discussion yesterday regarding the January and the March 2002 World Board meeting. Jon reported that there's a need to dedicate 2 days from the January and March 2002 World Board meetings for the training, and strategic planning. Therefore, the EC is proposing a 4-day meeting for both January and March.

The board needs to examine the entire issue of becoming a committee driven board or a planning board. Besides the vision for World Services, the other session would be devoted to the boards vision for the new conference adopted at the 2000 World Service Conference.

Lib supports the 4-day meeting, however concerned that it seems that previously discussed items for the Events Committee and the World Board has been left out of the March meetings, e.g. site walk thru, and meeting the Support Committee.

The board was in support of having a 4-day meeting in January and March 2002. Will try to arrange the agenda so that any important items will be dealt with when majority of the board is present.

The board affirmed that the January board meeting will be on Wednesday through Saturday, January 9—12, 2002

The March meeting will be Thursday through Sunday March 7—10, 2002. These dates will need to be verified with the hotel.

Conference Report/NAWS News

Since there are not enough resources to do the *Conference Report* and the *NAWS News* the board asked if they supported an extended NAWS News and not producing a Conference Report for November. There were no objections to replacing the November *Conference Report* with an extended *NAWS News*. The pre *Conference Report* will still be produced in March.

Reporting on WSM

Publications

Steve was astonished at the high level of openness and willingness from the delegates at the World Service Conference to try something new. There were a minimum of two conference participants at the WSM that were concerned with the presented timelines, however Steve remembers that when the question about putting off the Basic Text evaluation was asked it was with the thought of assisting the problem not micro managing the project.

Because the *NAWS News* is not a large enough publication something about Publications will be said, but the body of the information will be somewhere else.

HRP

There was nothing noted as far as reporting on what occurred at the WSM with the HRP. A couple of board members thought that something should be said about what the WSM is, it's stated purpose because of some talk about the absence of non North American participants.

This opened up the discussion regarding the boards thoughts on what the WSM is and why it is held. There was a lot of value in having the WSM because many didn't know the status of some of the boards work that the WSM meeting helped resolve, but the question still remains if the World Service Meeting should be called the WSM since it isn't all inclusive. It was suggested to not make it a problem.

Report the approach taken for setting the sessions up, that this was overwhelmingly well received, to expect more of this and in the same token report on that some shared that we need not forget the business that needed to be tended to. Include information like the feeling of a higher level of maturity, "partnership" feeling.

WB Committees and Non-board committee members

Jon referred to the July minutes where the board agreed to have the Executive Committee review the July minutes discussion notes and framing the information for further discussion at the October board meeting. Because of the items that need to take priority the EC will

have to frame notes for the WB Committees and Non-board committee members discussion sometime in the future. <u>The board had no objections.</u>

Clarification on the Guardians being a committee

In the July board minutes, the board decided that the Guardians would not be shown as a separate entity in TWGWSS, under Committees of the Board. TWGWSS states "The World board accomplishes much of its work through its *five* committees..." therefore begging the question if doing this would bring the committees to six and no longer five as stated in TWGWSS. The Guardians were created by the conference to be a separate entity.

<u>The board agreed that for now the language in TWGWSS will remain as it is for the Guardians.</u>

CAR 2002

Approach

The desire is to change the way people think about the *CAR*. Rewriting the introduction to explain the difference and make the content appear different. Except for the things that are mandated, pieces will also be edited to have one voice.

- It will be important that the introduction explain that the changes are due to the substantial discussions at the 2000 World Service Conference about the *CAR*, in the CTF small groups.

- Put all motions in the back and only the discussion based items in the front. Language should be inviting, fostering feeling about what the conference is. However, also include something along the lines of the right of a region to impact the report.

- Include language about the process working better without regional motions, and that motions should be used in an attempt to correct a problem, as well as with nominations.

- Not sure if conference participants have read and really understand what was approved at the 2000 World Service Conference. We need to give conference participants time to digest what was approved.

- Communicate that we want conference participants to impact the agenda and come into the conference in full partnership with you, lets get to a point where there doesn't need to be motion. Emphasize working together.

- The system has repeatedly reaffirmed the desire to do something differently. The old business portion is the same; the new business portion is unrestricted. Reaffirm the reality of what has been adopted.

- How do people get pointed to the ideal of what was adopted?

- Take some of the TWGWWS language. Would like to see something along the lines about the protection of the right of the minority, that the voice is heard and respected.

<u>The board agreed to rewrite the *CAR* introduction, explaining the difference and the content appearing different, as well as the changing the color of the cover. Becky will draft send it to the board for review</u>

Regional Motions—version 9

The board asked to provide bullet points to include in recommendations or if there's an objection to the recommendation. Jon informed the board on what work has been done with motion and their current status'.

1 Motion: That the World Board investigates and researches some possible ways to gather and publish service experience from the NA fellowship for the purpose of helping NA members learn more about the functions of GSRs.

This motion was not submitted by a RD but the region has approved it to be submitted on behalf of the region.

- The idea is supported but not in the form of a motion.

- Support training and tools and there are plans to develop this further in the future. Include information about our ongoing priorities in the recommendation as well.

<u>The board agreed with direction for how the recommendation will be written.</u>

2 Motion: To direct the World Board to allow the (limited) reprinting of the NA Fellowship's copyrighted literature by NA groups, service boards, and committees on the Internet, by applying the guidelines defined in NA Intellectual Property Bulletin #4 (Revised), "Reprinting NA Fellowship-approved Literature."

The motion being removed because they have not completed necessary information to submit a motion.

<u>The board approves pulling motion 2 out if the necessary language is not received by deadline.</u>

3 Motion: To direct the World Board and World Service Office to allow recognized NA groups, service boards and service committees to provide additions and changes of their meeting information to the NAWS database by supplying the latest, accurate, and whole meeting list. The list would have to include all data required by the technology of the NAWS database software application typically known as "required fields."

The difficulty with having to write the rationale for this motion is that the rationale is going to need a certain amount of explanation on how the database is kept, which the maker of the motion already knows.

<u>The board agreed with direction for how the recommendation will be written.</u>

- Let them know that it is unrealistic.

4 Motion: To change the word race in our literature.

Becky spoke with Bo about this motion at the EDM and informed him why a different word could used to accomplish what they wanted to do. Bo reported this back to the region and the region still wants the motion submitted. An email was sent to him advising of the motion submission deadline, what was necessary in order to be compliant with motion 16, and to contact the WSO if he needed more assistance. If Bo does not reply by the deadline the motion will be pulled.

<u>The board agreed with the direction of recommendation as well as with pulling the motion if no response is received from Bo by the deadline.</u>

5 Motion: NA World Services shall organize, host and facilitate the first meeting of a new, United States Regional Assembly in 2005. This assembly shall be a three day event conducted in the most cost efficient, centrally located city available in the United States so as to encourage as many Regions within the United States as possible to attend and participate. This assembly shall be a one-time responsibility of NA World Services. Each Region will be responsible for the cost of room nights and food for their respective participants as well as transportation to and from the assembly. Included in the agenda for the assembly shall be the following topics:

> 1)   ASSEMBLY GUIDELINES DISCUSSION
>
> 2)   FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR FUTURE ASSEMBLIES
>
> 3)   MISSION/VISION DISCUSSION

This motion seems to be about what a zone should or should not do. The Executive Committee is recommends that the motion recommendation approach be to recommend that this should not be a responsibility of WS. If the US regions wish to make this happen, they should make that decision and implement it. The positions of WS with Resolution A should be explained again.

- It was pointed out that the motion contains non-factual information, e.g. "National forums have been evolving for many years."

- During the EC call the issue was that we needed to provide a little information for those that may not have the history.

- Maker of the motion seems to be assuming that all the US regions are interested in this.

- WB response should be that this motion is out of order and it is not WS business to establish a forum—no funds from WS should be used.

- Clarify what our interaction with any forum is.

- Inform them that this not the place to get this decided—maybe we should ask how we can help.

- Let the conference decide.

- Maybe we should tell the So. Florida region that this should be presented under new business, but having the fellowship decide this is different.

- Would support this motion being presented as a why to what should be a motion and what should be a project plan as an example.

- If regions can now affect the processes of what WS does then what's currently written in TWGWSS should be removed.

- The passion around this issue acknowledged. However believes that conference participants will be surprised after reading this, and would suggest the motion being presented under new business and allow conference participants to deal with it.

- Suggest adding a sentence about the World Board developing a project plan to the recommendation.

- Believe that the silent majority of the conference will throw this out of order.

- Expand on the thought of not thinking this should be a responsibility of WS, if the US regions wish to make it happen that they should do it themselves.

- The board was asked who supported World Services supporting this via funding it—none.

- The body asked who supported the idea of a US Assembly—9.

- Say why this should not be in the *CAR*, and maybe help them to deal with this in the right process. Add that US all regions have not been asked about this. The maker of the motion also needs to switch the words regional and assembly.

<u>The board supported the general direction for the motion recommendation.</u>

6 Motion: That the name of the NA service publication, "Temporary Working Guide to World Service Structure", be changed to "The Guide to World Services."

There has been discussion back and forth with the delegate regarding the motion being withdrawn by the region.

7 Motion: That the World Service Office (WSO) only sell World Service Conference approved items; including key tags, medallions, audio and visual tapes, and service manuals.

- Regional delegate working on getting the motion either withdrawn or reworded to end at the word "items".

<u>The board agreed with recommendation as written in Regional Motions 2002—Version 9.</u>

8 Motion: To stop the seating of new United States regions until 2008.

<u>The board agreed with recommendation as written in Regional Motions 2002—Version 9.</u>

9 Motion: That the World Service Office Sales Policy be amended to reflect an increase of seven percent to the discount policy for Service Offices that engage I annual contracts with the World Service Office.

Maker of the motion will be asked for more language.

- Recommendation should include financial impact information, explain what happened in 1998 and why.

- This motion is another one of these motions that is not the business of the conference. If a regional service office requests a break in literature prices it needs to work with the WSO not put forth a motion. Another point is that the motion states "world service office sales policy" and there is no world services office sales policy, there is an US/Canadian Sales Policy.

- Jon and Anthony had a lengthy discussion about the maker of the motion being compliant with motion 16 and this points out how we deal with these things. Year after year spending an ordainment amount of time helping regions to write motions when it is not WS responsibility to do so.

The board agreed to have Anthony inform the region what is wrong with the motion, and what needs to be done.

- Conference participants will be informed of the motion is passed.

<u>The board agreed to allow the Executive Committee to finalize the CAR introduction, the motions, motion recommendations and the Issue Discussion Papers at the October 25th meeting. This will be sent to the board for input with a quick turnaround time.</u>

10 Motion: That the World Service Office place those Service Offices engaged in annual contracts on a net sixty, instead of net thirty payment terms.

<u>The board agreed to explain what happened in 1998 and why.</u>

11 Motion To delay the Basic Text evaluations project until 2006 so that we can spend more time on development and review within the Sponsorship project.

- This is another example of changing a project plan via a motion.

- Publications Committee is recommending that the 2004 timeline for the Basic Text be kept and continue with the 2 yr plan for sponsorship project.

<u>The board agreed with the direction of the recommendation as written in Regional Motions 2002—Version 9.</u>

12 Motion: That NAWS reprint first edition and second edition Basic Text and sell them for a reasonable price.

- Say that the current version is the only version and to sell other version would create much confusion, also expanding how our literature represents us to the public and professionals. Also explain how this would affect conference action in 1993.

<u>The board agreed with the general direction of the recommendation written in version 9 document, along with adding language regarding the confusion that would possibly be created and 1993 conference action.</u>

Responses to regional motions

Motion: To remove the selection of issue discussion topics from future Conference Agenda Reports.

- Need to add the board's support about the process only.

<u>There was no objection to the board making a statement of the Note: if this motion passes, the board will be asking the conference not to vote on Motion 2.</u>

Motion: To select two issue discussion topics from the following list for discussion at the 2002 World Service Conference.

In previous years we have had a board member speak with the topic submitters and this year this has not been done. We have now received three papers on each topic and the deadline is a week from Monday.

Human Resource Panel

The board agreed to forward the received input on the W*SC 2000 Version HRP World Board Question Form* and *Newly revised HRP World Board Question Form* to the HRP with a note stating that the input is not coming from the Board but from individual board members.

There was a concern was that since only 3 board members gave input to the question forms, it would possibly automatically be incorporated because it came from a board member.

The board asked if there was an expectation that they would see the input before HRP gets it? Board responded "no."

A few individual board members agreed to submit input with the deadline of October 14th. Jon will ask the HRP if they want input on the reference questions (these are the questions they ask the individuals listed as references) and will tell them that the input being sent to them is not coming from the Board but from individual board members.

Conference Approval Track

Board will only be presenting what's in the *CAR* when participating at *CAR* workshops. There's the possibility that questions regarding items that have previously been sent out may arise. It will be important that our responses to questions regarding previously mailed items explain the difference between *CAR* items and conference approval track items.

The board asked to think about changing World Board interacting at *CAR* workshops.

What and when

The board talked about when the GTLS summary, Rules of Order, *Treasurer's Handbook*, and TWGWSS should be mailed so that it isn't mailed at the same time as the *CAR*—policy is at least 90 days. Jon would like to see the items be mailed out, as they are ready, but knows that it cannot be done, however does not want the board locked into the 90 day timeline.

Michael sent input regarding the importance of clearly delineating the difference between *CAR* and Conference Approval track items.

Anything after the mailing of the *CAR* should wait till its more than one item, anything before the CAR can go out and the EC will facilitate the mailing process.

TWGWSS

This draft will be included with the TWGWSS material. Took all the changes and gave rationales for the changes.

The board discussed how TWGWSS draft with changes should be sent out and the easiest way to show the changes. The board supports the EC finalizing the (simple) introduction.

Budget and Project Plans

The board advised that Anthony will be taking the same conservative approach with the income projection—same as the last budget. This will give us the authority to proceed with a project if and when the resources became available.

FRC has to decide if another plan needs to be created for Worldwide Workshops, or if it's going to be a part of routine services.

October 23rd is the deadline for committee to provide input or new plans. There was no objection from the board to the presented approach that will use for the budget and project plans.

Action Item List

Project Ideas

Ground Rules and Brainstorming Guidelines—The Executive Committees recommendation is to include copies in a future mailing—not laminated and producing as a stock item. There was no objection to the recommendation.

Basic Address Book— The Executive Committees recommendation is considering as a future specialty item and not the Ground Rules as a stock item. <u>The was no objection to the recommendation.</u>

Twelve Concepts audiotape—The Executive Committee recommends keeping the idea on file for future consideration. <u>There was no objection to the recommendation.</u>

Twelve Traditions Workbook—project idea will be given to literature development process for future consideration. <u>There was no objection to the recommendation.</u>

Line numbered Step booklet & Concordant line numbered step booklets in various combinations of different languages—The Executive Committee recommends not producing the line numbered step booklet and concordant line numbered step booklet. The fellowship has already been asked if they want a step booklet many times and have and voiced no interest. <u>There was no objection to the recommendation</u>

The board discussed and reviewed the email regarding his dissatisfaction.

Closed Personnel Session

Friday 5 October

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

Not present: Jane Nickels, Daniel Schuessler and Cary Seltzer

Staff: Anthony Edmondson, Elaine Adams, Eileen Perez-Evans, Michael Lee, and Jeff Gershoff

Because of the time constraints committees will move any of the agenda items from the present meeting to the November meeting.

Public Relations Committee

Small group discussions regarding our Public Relations foundation

The board broke up into 3 small groups to discuss and respond to the following questions:

How does our primary purpose and the traditions support our Public Relations efforts?

▲ What's right with our current efforts?

How does our primary purpose and traditions conflict with our Public Relations efforts?

▲ What's wrong with current efforts?

What do we want to accomplish with our public efforts? Steps to take/bolster.

Everyone thanked for their participation and ideas. The PR committee will review the gathered information from each of the small groups and produce a report that gives tangible results.

Fellowship Relations Committee

Worldwide workshops

Michael went over the FRC's report. Talked about how and why the London workshop was cancelled. The UK community is interested in rebooking the event some other time. FRC did not commit to it at this point.

The New Zealand workshop is coming along good. Some concerns about the Brazil workshop were noted. Chicago workshop is coming along considering how far out it is.

Staff will be trained in creating presentations and the World Board will be trained on how to facilitate a presentation by Jim DeLizia in January 2002.

Treasurers Handbook

The Treasurers Handbook has been included the board package. The Fellowship Relations Committee needs to receive all board input by October 14th. Jon asked that a final draft be sent to him before it's mailed to the fellowship. As a common courtesy FRC will send a final draft to the workgroup.

The board briefly discussed the 3 diagrams in *Self Support IP, Guide to Local Service,* and Treasurers Handbook. Staff will be reviewing the diagrams. The presented work is what's being proposed however more work will be done to the handbook in the future.

It was noted that the Group Treasurers Workgroup is an excerpt from the front part of the Treasurers Handbook and would require fellowship approval. The board discussed possible solutions.

The board decided that the Treasurers Workbook will go in the *CAR* and the Treasurers Handbook will go in the conference approval track. *NAWS News* will be used as a mechanism to notify the fellowship regarding the workbook going in the *CAR.*

Committed Motions

Description of Service Structure in GTLS

The committee is meeting this evening to review and achieve consensus on one of the four options.

Two separate copies of the GTLS were given to the board: a strikethrough copy and a copy of what it would look like. The changes were explained—the diagram will stay the same and copy edits will be done. There was lengthy discussion about the summary being a service tool for GSRs, and what the conference participants asked for.

- Anything under NA World Services should be bulleted.

- CTF Focus groups revealed that members do not know what WS does, therefore this should help that.

- There was a concern about the Zonal Forum description. Questions the possibility to add "every zonal forum has different constituents." Seems misleading as it currently reads.

- Response: What is written is what is written in TWGWSS and can not be changed.

- Aid asked if we would write something that will not have to be conference approved to get this information out.

- There was a suggestion to include the acronyms after the spelled out name/title.

- A line about the HRP and the World Pool will be added.

It was suggested that the board take more time to look at this document. Oct 14 deadline for input on this the GTLS. Michael asked if everyone is ok with moving ahead with this as amended-no objection

It is important that the board have a common understanding about how the summary is presented.

There was more discussion on the different diagrams in the GTLS, the *Self Support* pamphlet as well as the Treasurers handbook.

- There was some concern regarding FRC not really having had the time to review and discuss the different diagrams in the publications as a committee first. If the board chooses the diagram in the GTLS this could have a ripple effect.

- The diagram cannot just be changed in the *Self Support* IP because its fellowship approved literature.

- Change the diagram in the Treasurer's workbook and the GTLS at one time and then later after going through the process the *Self Support* diagram can be changed.

Rules of Order:

FRC will request a workgroup to be formed that does not meet face to face to go over the Rules of Order. It is FRC's intention to utilize the Cofacilitators and Don Cameron if he is

available.   The HRP will be asked for names of anyone in the pool with past policy experience.

WSC Seating Workgroup

Mary Hollahan has been assigned to work with the World Service Conference Seating Workgroup. A Michael Mc has met with her twice and letter has been drafted.

Sharing Session

Saturday 6 October

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

Not present: Jane Nickels, Daniel Schuessler and Cary Seltzer

Staff: Anthony Edmondson, Elaine Adams, Eileen Perez-Evans, Michael Lee, and Jeff Gershoff

The meeting was opened with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity prayer and the reading of the meditation for the day.

Guardians

Workplan

NA Way Editorial Board

The board is being asked to think about being proactive, as well as what would be best for the fellowship and the *NA Way*. The board broke into small groups to discussion the proposed questions. The questions are as follows:

Is NAWS satisfied with the current investment in the NA Way magazine?

▲ Should we continue to try to increase circulation, given the accompanying increase in production cost, which would be an additional $3,000 and $1,000?

▲ Should we continue to supply one copy to every member who requests one?

The NA Way is currently described as the fellowship's vehicle for sharing recovery and service experience. Are there any changes in magazine format or purpose that we'd like to consider for future discussions?

Group One: The perceived value is high, feel the circulation should be increased, e.g. that each group get one copy, as well as continue to give upon request. Group One was satisfied overall with the magazine, and feel the magazine should have budgeted amount allocated to it. Group One did not have any input on the change of use or content of the magazine (overall satisfied). Didn't think about to pushing harder to increase the circulation.

Group Two: Satisfied to a point with the magazine, e.g. is worth what is being spent one it at the moment. Increasing allocated amount would be okay, but at some point its this would need to be looked at. The spiritual aspect of the magazine is wonderful. Increase circulation—at some point and time, and at the same time would have to look at the cost facture. One of the questions we want to ask the fellowship is for some type of donation. Could use the magazine to explain the process of where all the money goes.

Group Three: Felt it was difficult to respond to increasing circulation which would mean increasing cost. Need to look at a benefits in response to the first question. Felt the magazine could be made less bland. Possibly offer an online only option to which would dramatically save money. Also compel members to respond to wanting to continue to subscription by sending something out once a year—no response would mean a discontinued subscription.

- Because the articles in this issue were primarily being submitted by staff it seems apparent that the fellowship is not embracing the magazine. The fellowship is not

supporting the magazine by providing input and/or articles and we therefore end up manufacturing the fellowship journal.

- Suggest having staff having direct one to one communications with potential article contributors, calling people and asking them what they are thinking about, etc.

Steve S. communicated that it is his perception that the board is unhappy with magazine, and that the fellowship is happy with the magazine the way it is—as long as they don't have to contribute to it. Staff has really solicited articles for the last 3 issues from the fellowship and has not received a good response.

Under the Editorial Board Recommendations: The Guardians will change the clean time requirement to 10 years.

Publications Committee

Sponsorship Concepts

The concept list was emailed to the board with the intent for the board to assist paring down the list of possible concepts by noting the line number of the correlating concept believed to either need further discussion or be removed. The challenge became that the email transmission of the list resulted in the format changing in some of the emails and as a result the input received back was not as useful as originally anticipated. Difficulty was in determining what the actual input was for those that used the line numbers to indicate concept. There was however verbiage input that pointed out the actual concept. So the 4 topics shown in the Publications Committee report were derived from the input that the committee was able to decipher. The World Board will receive document containing all board concept input by the 2002 January meeting.

- Input: the list could have been shorter if the concepts weren't repeated and if the document was formatted differently.

- It was hard to keep track of the goal with a list so long.

- The list was set up in a way to give an accurate picture of input received, even if some of the items said the same thing but in a different way.

- Is it possible for Pubs to frame a discussion for the board that clearly indicates what the committee needs. Providing a very clear point at which a discussion can be initiated.

- Thinks there should be a report on the hot topics for the sponsorship book at the World Service Conference.

The board what level of detail is wanted from the Publications Committee regarding the Sponsorship and the Basic Text project and a couple of board members expressed some concern if the board should want to be involved in a high level of detail.

Plans for Sponsorship and the Basic Text –

The board concurred that they were in agreement with the Publications Committee recommendations of producing a book length piece, containing from 96-128 pages that will include an introduction and five chapters about/on Sponsorship. Book would reflect the experience of individual members; will not be a guide or a rule book/handbook.

The Sponsorship project will be presented to the conference for a 2004 approval. Pubs will continue to receive input from fellowship through December 31, 2001. They will also continue gathering additional source material in a variety of ways including interviewing the members of

the fellowship, World Board—personal experience. All of this is dependent on having a write on board by January.

<u>World Board asked to send their personal experiences (2-3 pages) on Sponsorship to the Pubs Committee by December 31, 2001 deadline.</u>

By February: have writer draft an outline that contains what will be written in each chapter and develop criteria for the Sponsorship workgroup to forward to the HRP. Workgroup members will need a diversity of experience and knowledge on Sponsorship in NA. Workgroup will be working with staff and will review source material, and outline and will only be providing additional input or discussion information for the board. No editors.

R/I draft has to be authorized by the board, unless this is delegated to someone else. An additional change is that they are also proposing a 90-day review and input period. This project also involves revising the Sponsorship IP. November 2003 – April 2004 for fellowship approval.

<u>No objections to the process as outlined above.</u>

The board discussed alternative timelines, sticking with a 4 year presentation plan as well as the review and input premise. The *It Works, How and Why* can be used as an example if there are questions with the Sponsorship book being a quality product. Each half of the *It Works, How and Why* book took less than a year, working on the steps it simultaneously.

Basic Text

The survey needs to be developed between now and 2002 World Service Conference. The board affirmed previously agreeing to use a professional for its development and that it be a very simple. There was discussion on how to ask the questions for the development of the RFP as a question worded two different ways but meaning the same thing could get two different responses. There is agreement that a definite answer on whether the Basic Text should be changed is needed as well as the Little White Book.

The board believes that a needs assessments should occur, how this should occur, and how to carry out the assessment without clouding the results of the survey questioned. Should a needs assessment be included with a document (survey) that is asking for clear answers about the Basic Text? Isn't it like mixing apples and oranges?

It was pointed out that the board should possibly decide how to gage responses/non responses as well as how to ask the survey questions before deciding how to send out the assessment, e.g. how do you gage sending out 100 surveys, receiving 50, 20 say yes change the Basic Text and 30 say no don't change the Basic Text? A professional is needed to develop the survey, but also someone that's a statistician.

There was some discussion on the extent of distribution of the survey to the fellowship—what's the best way to get what's needed.

<u>Publications Committee will write the RFP. The board will see the draft survey in January and again in March.</u>

<u>The board supports the idea of the Publications Committee setting up dialog with the fellowship on literature development.</u>

Review of draft report for the CAR

<u>The board will get the final version for review and input with a 48 hour turnaround.</u> Report is essentially only based on an outline and is a real rough draft; actual work on this report starts

tomorrow, October 6, 2001. <u>Anne will forward a copy to Jane via email.</u> <u>Everyone should become quite familiar with the sponsorship project and the Pubs *CAR* report for upcoming workshops.</u>

Publications Committee pointed out that it will be absolutely important that point people for the two workgroups be identified by November 2001.

<u>The board reminded of the report approval protocols once outside the board meeting is: The Executive Committee finalizes when board not meeting.</u>

Nederland's Personal Stories

The LTC edited the stories as requested by the World Board and the changes were reviewed by the Translations Evaluations workgroup once the stories came back.

Some members of the board expressed displeasure with having received the stories for review in a language other than English. The stories were given to the board for a second review in the Nederlands language. It was also expressed that the concerns with the stories was about more than names of individuals and institutions, but also about the LTC not following the guidelines for personal stories. The discussion at July World Board meeting was also about where the LTC believe the stories are ready for their Basic Text and about the board not liking what was being written.

The was a discussion on what the board's responsibility is when reviewing and approving Personal Stories for the Basic Text; e.g. the World Board is not to judge how good the stories are, only that they have changed what was asked. Giovanna doesn't recall the board having a strong opposition to approving the stories, only that the board wanted individual names, institution names and profanity be removed—and that the board felt there was no conceptual problems with the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions. There was further discussion on that core problem is not the stories but what LTCs are given as guidelines for personal stories. The board needs to separate the present issue of approving the stories and the guidelines lack clear policy. Other issue is that what is printed has to be different because it is the public presentation of our philosophy; our message in print. So if it is not consistent with the philosophy we as a board have to decide if it needs to be changed.

<u>The board agrees to Anthony speaking with staff to find out the process used to communicate the changes requested by the board. Once that is done Anthony will communicate with the LTC on the importance of why the board is asking them for the assurance of the changes and apologize for how long the approval of the Nederlands stories is taking.</u>

<u>It was also suggested that since Susan has extensive experience with working with the Translations Committee that she and the Translations Evaluation group (Dora, Ralph, Giovanna) work on evaluating the current criteria for writing personal stories in the Translations Basics. There was no objection to this.</u>

<u>Ron's request for the board not to review the stories again was withdrawn. The same process will be followed.</u>

Events

Final site selection for WCNA 32 – New Orleans and San Antonio

<u>The World Board approved San Antonio as the site for WCNA 32.</u>

WCNA 29 - Atlanta

Final registration flyer

The committee is in somewhat of a crunch and in order to stay within the presented deadlines the Events Committee is presenting the current artwork for the WCNA 29 flyer. Everyone informed that work on the contents of the flyer and copy editing still need to be done.

There were a couple of suggestions on restructuring the front cover artwork presenting it in a more contemporary fashion. After a brief discussion regarding some things from the artwork <u>the board agreed to allow more work on the flyer to be done, allowing the board to submit further input by Tuesday, October 14th, 2001</u>.

Jewelry and Taping Vendors

The current standard is any vendor can submit a bid to be considered as the exclusive world convention vendor, and after seeing who meets the criteria a single vendor is chosen. Because there has been some question the board has been asked to think about the issue of creating a business relationship between a corporation (WSO) and a businessman who also happens to be a NA member, as well as think about having multiple vendors. After some discussion the <u>board was in concurrence with the Events Committee recommendation that there only be one exclusive vendor in each area for world conventions.</u>

The board discussed the committees recommendation for the WCNA 29 vendor. Recommended vendor; Parable Design has been the vendor for many of NAWS world conventions and has been the only vendor able to demonstrate the ability to meet our requirements and always has presented the best offer for NAWS. <u>It was the decision of the board to select Parable Designs (owned by Mr. Bill) as the exclusive vendor for WCNA 29 jewelry.</u>

Tape Vendors

The board was presented a couple of options for the selection of tape vendors. Background information provided; e.g. we have had inconsistent experiences with member tape vendors having the capability to handle the current size and scope that WCNA business offers.

Mike proposed that Coas*t to Cost* be used for the Atlanta convention giving the opportunity to analyze their success, also start researching the cost with other non-member taping companies, e.g. *Sound of Knowledge*.

Sound of Knowledge proposal states that they have the ability to duplicate over 2500 tapes per day, and 75 CDs an hour. Also offers CDs Rom (actual cost unknown) that are capable of holding up to 30 hrs of digital image. They also have online store that would make it possible for members unable to attend the convention to order tapes. Mike read references given by *Sound of Knowledge*.

The board was asked for consensus to approve *Coast to Coast* as the taping company for WCNA 29. 4 objected. The four members reasons for objection stated that there is the opportunity to possibly alleviate the problem of companies not being able to handle the volume our company presents. One board member who objected to *Coast to Coast* stated the willingness to go with company but would not okay with paying $8 a tape.

Board agreed to allow the Events Committee to continue investigating other taping company for the Atlanta convention. The board further agreed that the Events Committee will decide which company to use.

Board agreed to allow the Events Committee to finish the investigation about the price of individual speaker tapes and leave the decision to the Events Committee.

Asked that the board give names for speakers by the October 12th. Looking for diversity

Miscellaneous

October 14 will be the deadline for input on the Annual Report. Becky reminded the board that we are out of compliance with the FIPT for when the Annual Report needs to be sent out to the fellowship. Michael Lee will send Tom, David, Giovanna, Tony, and Jon, Michael email copies.

Anthony withdrew the request for publishing in Iran.

Sharing Session