

# **Narcotics Anonymous World Services, Inc.**

## **Approved World Board Minutes**

**19-22 March 2014**

### **Wednesday 19 March**

**Present:** Ron Blake, Franney Jardine, Jim Buerer, Arne Hassel-Gren Tana Agostini, Mary Banner, Iñigo Calonje Unceta, Paul Craig, Irene Crawley, Paul Fitzgerald, Odilson Gomes Braz Junior, Bob Gray, Sharon Harzenski-Deutsch, Mark Hersh, Tali McCall, Tonia Nikolinakou and MaryEllen Polin.

**Staff:** Anthony Edmondson, Eileen Perez, Becky Meyer, Jane Nickels and Travis Koplow as well as various other staff members throughout the meeting for different sessions of the board.

**WSC Cofacilitators:** Marc Gartler and Dickie Davis joined the meeting after the sharing session.

### **WB Sharing Session**

The World Board began their meeting with a closed session that is not a recorded portion of the meeting.

### **Traditions Book**

The World Board chair opened the meeting with a moment of silence, the Serenity Prayer and a few announcements.

#### **Discussion of the plans to date and frame for the book**

The draft project outline along with proposed Workplan and Timeline presented. The Traditions Book project is currently in its 2<sup>nd</sup> cycle. This draft outline is based on World Board discussion and fellowship input.

It was noted that there doesn't seem to be much discussion on the conference participant's bulletin board nor on the discussion board regarding project; yet at workshops; participants ask what is occurring on the book electronically. So it seems that they are not responding to working (inputting) this way; however, they desire a way to contribute electronically.

Staff reported wanting to use old-timers to get their experiences on getting clean early on in Narcotics Anonymous and on Narcotics Anonymous in general. There is a desire to get experience from international members. There has been dialog about using webinars with smaller groups which would allow for a verbal webinar interaction.

This is not going to be an encyclopedia on the Traditions; however; more on the direction of the book should be known by January 31, 2015. Everyone encouraged hosting local events on Traditions.

The Board had a dialog regarding the structure of the book?

Decision: Tradition Book Project outline with amendments affirmed by the World Board. There was also general agreement on the input deadline and timelines. Timeline for when the workgroup meetings not yet included.

Deadline to send Eileen workgroup names is April 1<sup>st</sup>.

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**WSC 2014**

**Schedule for the week**

The board discussed the outline for the week and the Conference Report having the walk through of what can be expected.

- a. Based on evaluations from last WSC we do not have an RD session scheduled
- b. WSC sessions will be covered more at length during the meeting tomorrow

Except for moving the Old Business session to Monday, the schedule is basically the same as last conference.

- If any of conference participant discussions result in an interest the Board will ask the body's indulgence to pass.
- There was discussion on how to work with conference participants and WSC Co-Facilitators and the timeframe for each session.
- The Proposals in CAR are Old Business and New Business is the CAT items and Project Plans and Budget.

No objection to the WSC week draft as presented.

**Process for Regional Proposals in Old Business**

The World Board reviewed presented material regarding regional proposals and Cofacilitators added thoughts on facilitating WSC discussion. No objection to what is being presented for regional proposals.

**GWSNA revisions**

- a. Suggesting the same process used at the last WSC to make the current draft of GWSNA. That would mean agreement to the idea or direction decided by proposal and the language to be written later.
- b. It also means offering something like Motion 7 from WSC 2012 as the first item of business:

To adopt for WSC 2012 only, the following exceptions to the WSC Rules of Order:

Formal Old Business Session

*A. Main motions (GWSNA, page 57G) or amendments (GWSNA, page 57B) to main motions will be limited to the following:*

- *CAR motions, including resolutions*
- *A motion "To approve the minutes from WSC 2010".*
- *This motion "To adopt for WSC 2012 only, the following exceptions to the WSC Rules of Order:"*

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*B. Changes to motions, resolutions, and proposals will be handled in the discussion portion of the old business session.*

- *Proposed changes to motions, resolutions, and proposals should be submitted on a proposal form by the old business deadline at 6 pm Sunday (or if the last session Sunday runs long, a half hour after that session).*
- *Changes that would previously have been addressed by making a formal amendment will be submitted by the deadline as "an idea for changing a motion, resolution, or proposal."*

**Formal New Business Session**

*A. Main motions (GWSNA, page 57G) or amendments (GWSNA, page 57B) to main motions will be limited to the following::*

- *Motions to pass the project plans*
- *A motion to approve the 2012-2014 NAWWS budget*

*B. Any other new business will be treated as a proposal rather than a motion:*

- *New business proposals, including proposed changes to motions, must be submitted on a proposal form by the new business deadline, 6 pm Wednesday night.*

*Intent: To continue our evolution towards a consensus based conference*

- *Project plans and budget will be dealt in new business.*
- *In the future if regions want something in the CAR what do they do'. Answer: it depends on the decisions at this conference. However if the conference agrees and accepts the board will have to help model ways at the conference and between conferences.*

**The World Board affirmed direction of the proposal.**

The Chair made a few announcements before ending for the day.

World Board meeting adjourned for the day at 5:10pm on March 19, 2014.

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### **Thursday 20 March**

#### **2014 WSC Sessions**

Various staff members joined the meeting to participate in the mock WSC sessions small group brainstorming discussions. This session will focus on how to create, plan and develop foundational steps for the direction for the 5 breakout sessions on Needs of NA, Reasons We Come Together, Reasons We Come Together, Options for the Future and Where do we go from here.

WSC outline handed out. The goal is to generate a neutral benefit and ownership to everyone. Creating together; planning and forming foundational steps which will help the direction.

The board concluded their mock WSC brainstorming session for the day.

#### **Conference Participant Bulletin Board**

No objection to staff continuing to work with a Board member on responses for Bulletin Board.

The World Board chair made a few announcements before ending the meeting at 5:45pm on Thursday, March 20, 2014.

### **Friday 21 March**

#### **WB Team Building Session**

The World Board began meeting in a facilitated team building exercise.

#### **Public Relations**

#### **2013 Membership Survey Results**

This meeting is typically when the details of the updated Membership Survey pamphlet are provided to begin creation of the first draft which is then presented at the conference.

#### **Survey report summarized**

- Survey e-blasted to our members as well as included in the NA Way
- AA has more younger members, Spanish speakers in the U.S. and Doctors
- When different language groups want the survey, it's usually the PR committees that take the English survey and translate and/or adapt for their own use
- Survey idea; to create survey as a mobile app

Items in blue require a decision

Items in Purple are discussion only

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The World Board provided input that will be incorporated into the Membership Survey.

**Future of Leadership**

The board will meet later to continue leadership discussions.

World Board meeting adjourned for the day at 4:45 on Friday March 21, 2014.

**Saturday 22 March**

**Conference Participant Webinar**

**Webinar began at 10am - 11:30am**

Webinar is to help conference participants ask questions and help them understand and prepare for the upcoming World Service conference.

**Webinar closing discussions**

- Webinar had 60 participants
- At times seems like a somewhat clumsy mechanism form of communication
- Many webinars require that participants send their questions in prior the call to in order to have a more efficient flow of information (pre-plan).
- Future: integrating video

**Corporate Responsibilities**

**HRP Slate**

The list was presented and everyone reminded that until this is reported the information is confidential.

**Elections for Chair and Vice Chair**

Ballet result: Franney Jardine elected as the World Board Chair person.

Ballot results: Arne Hassel-Gren voted in as the Vice Chair of the World Board.

The new Chair and Vice Chair begin their terms at the close of the first meeting of the 2014-2016 cycle.

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### **Size of the board**

Researching opinions on this topic vary. People that are seen as experts in field say anywhere from a 12-15 member board that doesn't raise funds and that whatever is decided it should be an odd number.

Areas to consider are the nature of purpose, what is the size and scope of the organization you are trying to serve? The board as a whole should begin researching those topics to continue this dialog for making the best decision. Doing a web search for 'size of nonprofit boards' will provide much information.

"Can the World Board accomplish what is necessary with current or smaller size? "

The boards varying thoughts on the size of the board are that the larger size of the board brings diversity, a feeling of a nation and a fresh perspective when newer members elected it was also more challenging to get through discussion. Discussions take longer, at times ineffective, are less fluid and difficult for a body of 18 to come to a consensus/decision. General thought is that 18 too large but anything less than 12 too small and that a strategic body does not need to be large.

Because this discussion is also about more than just the size of the board this discussion will be continued. No decision was reached.

### **Financial Update - summary**

- The skew of the price increase effects are still unknown.
- March Financials will be passed out at the conference
  - There is only \$56K of the conference expenses shown.
  - Paying out \$485K for WSC
- Books income; Basic Text sales encouraging however tempering
- Rebates are barely being paid out from Philadelphia (bottom line)
- Discussion regarding conference funding
- Financial stability will need to be discussed in the future.

Regional Service Office realities discussed and how NAWS has written off a tremendous amount of debt to help RSO's in continuing to assist them in distribution of literature.

### **Annual Report input**

- Some dialog regarding TEG duties which includes evaluations of a new communities IP 1 and Narcotics Anonymous Glossary in conjunction with staff and of course some communications regarding a community's preparedness with translations of literature.

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- Regional contributions; report handed out during the conference week.
- Mountain Valley – areas need to be put in proper region (correction)

No other comments or input on the Annual Report

### **Adoption of January minutes**

January 2014 World Board minutes adopted as amended.

### **Production**

- Right now examining the possibility of eliminating the least sold medallions and replacing with a laser etched medallion.

Staff will send the World Board an email regarding the costs for the laser etched medallions. Currently estimating that the laser etched medallions sale price will be \$12-\$15 dollars, will also research what it will cost to produce a bezel for the smaller sized etched medallion.

- All non-English Living Clean books will be produced with soft cover.
- Assessing removing the least sold journal and replacing it with a Living Clean style journal.
- Step Working Guide Mobile App: IOS version ready to go, will test to see fellowships interest. Possible sale price \$4.99 - \$11 depending on features.

No objections to the possibility of replacing the least sold medallions in inventory with the laser etched medallions, to staff researching the cost to produce a bezel, to possibly removing the least sold journal and replacing with a Living Clean Journal and all non-English produced Living Cleans will be soft cover. Continuing with the development of the Step Working Guide app (no specific time frame for completion) sale price will depend on features.

### **Legal and FIPT Update**

Legal and FIPT update provided to the World Board.

### **2014-2016 Calendar**

There a request to move the proposed January 2015 meeting to an earlier week during the month. After some dialog regarding which week in January would be best it was decided to move the meeting to 21-24 January 2015, all other proposed dates accepted as presented.

The World Board meeting ended at 4:36pm on Saturday, March 22, 2014.

**APPROVED**

**JUL 2 5 2014**