

Narcotics Anonymous World Services, Inc.
Approved Minutes of the World Board
14-17 October 2015

Wednesday 14 October

Present: Tana Agostini, Mary Banner, Ron Blake Inigo Calonje Unceta, Paul Craig, Irene Crawley, Paul Fitzgerald, Odilson Gomes Braz, Sharon Harzenski, Arne Hassel-Gren, Mark Hersh, Franney Jardine, Tali McCall, Mary Ellen Polin, and Ron Miller

Not present: Tonia Nikolinakou and Bob Gray unable to attend the meeting.

Staff: Becky Meyer, Eileen Perez, Anthony Edmondson, Jane Nickels, Travis Koplow and various other staff members joined to report on certain segments of the agenda as well as participate in the strategic planning session on Friday.

The Chair opened the meeting with the Serenity prayer, a moment of silence followed by a review of the agenda. Time was also taken to provide updates on Board members who were unable to attend the meeting.

KRA: Trusted Servant Development

WB Operating Values Group

Tali, Paul F and Irene lead the group in a team building session focused on the Twelve Concepts of Narcotics Anonymous. No staff present as this is not a recorded session of the board.

KRA: Member and Group Support

Guiding Principles – The Spirit of our Traditions

Report on the progress to date, results of R&I, and Upcoming plans to finalize approval draft

Workgroup report recapped. There are two web meetings scheduled.

Traditions 1-6 have been emailed and posted on SharePoint site. Next chapters for review are 7-10 followed by chapters 11, 12 and the Introduction will be last. Each chapter is reviewed individually by the workgroup and all input considered.

The issue of length still being worked out, word count is 85K and striving for around 60K. This book will be thicker than most of our literature, however not so bulky that people won't use. World Board reminded that the group discussed removing the callout sections and weaving the gems back into the text.

There are 12-20 questions for members and 8-15 for group and service bodies; keeping in mind that when groups and service bodies use the questions they will have the ability adapt to their necessities.

Once chapters 7-12 revised all chapters will be reviewed once again and when this done additional word changes may take place to create a better readability flow.

Everyone acknowledged staff and the workgroups hard work. Comment about the book being visually very beautiful.

Timelines recapped:

- Chapters 1-6 – Oct 16th
- Chapters 7-10 – Oct 30th
- Chapters 7-12 and the Introduction – Nov 13th

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KRA: Service System

Decision Making at the WSC

Decision-Making at the WSC update

The World Board provided with a report with two proposals to consider.

This report includes:

- An overview of the workgroup's work since the August meeting, and some thoughts about future work.
- An updated Facilitator Tools which was previously approved but now has an added section. The added section is titled 'Motions and Proposals' and this will need the Board's consideration and approval.
- A flow chart that is intended to illuminate the process discussed in the 'Motions and Proposals' section of the Facilitator Tools which will also need approval.

The measurement rule used in the Tools sheet explained. If conference participants accept the process as explained it can begin to give a bench mark as far consensus.

After discussing minor changes the board agreed to distribute with CAT material. If adopted by the conference the tool's process would essentially become this conference's Motion 7.

Delegates Sharing

Workgroup report provided and two points needing a decision. One is the affirmation of Laura R. from Costa Rica as a replacement for Oscar P from Nicaragua. The other item needing the Board's attention is the distribution of a workgroup newsletter for conference participants. The request is for the newsletter to go out with the CAR, another with the CAT and another with the March Conference Report.

There is no opposition to Laura R as a replacement for Oscar P at the request of the workgroup.

The board talked about the workgroup purpose and the delegates desire to share with one other. This is something the conference voted for and is only for delegates. Understanding that this is what the delegates requested as a forum not sure why this body is being asked to approve. Individually like the material and its purpose, we are here to serve RD's. It's an attractive project of communication and the material liked. Would request a title change because it does look like it might be from the World Board or NAWS.

- World Board suggesting a different title like Delegates sharing with Delegates and correct typos.
- Concerned as this is a departure from what was originally approved

Newsletter will be included with the CAT, CAR and March Conference Report mailings.

Plans for the 2016 CAR

We are creating a first CAR motions draft and ideas list. This is only an outline of what would go in the CAR and simply provided to help focus our discussions. The CAR will be drafted following the October World Board meeting and reviewed by email and a possible webinar if necessary.

Discussion regarding adding the WSC Seating Group to the CAR and at this point it can be presented in the CAT since it wasn't previously discussed we can however prepare delegates for the dialog. Future of the WSC is another topic and seems that there are other issues that will be dealt with in the report

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(FIPT issues). We also talked about planning for next cycle, Service System and those issues will be discussed on Friday. No other points noted as missing from the outline.

Close the day with a WB Sharing Session

The board went into their sharing session which is not a recorded session of the Board.

Thursday 15 October

The meeting opened with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity prayer. The group took some time to acknowledge and talk about the passing of a long time member of the Narcotics Anonymous and current World Board member.

KRA: Service System and Trusted Servant Development

Plans for the 2016 CAR

Intro from the World Board

The theme is Honesty, Trust and Goodwill and from our Vision Statement. The Vision Statement will be interwoven to help recapitulate why we're doing this, etc. maybe the style of the cover could be in a way that the theme words can pop out.

Ideas discussed on how to begin the introduction from the board. :

- Begin with key highlights and the work that the board had accomplished, what's happened in the cycle. Talk about what's different today than two years ago.
- Report issues we've dealt with including illicit literature, FIPT, challenges with technology.
- WCNA and relooking at how event executed.
- Internal groups that were a test, what was learned from that and how that worked.
 - Address being more hands on this cycle.
 - Virtual workgroup being a bit more resource intensive than originally thought yet at the same time good work came out as a result..
- The size of the World Board.
- Living Clean book all over the world.
- Social media ~~and~~ how we remain mindful of our principles when responding.
- Talk about love and passion for NA and the fellowship all over the world – unity.
- Zones, worldwide communities.
- Delegate Sharing.
- Emphasize Fellowship Development and the effort that goes into particularly the new communities. How new communities are like newcomers requiring a stable base, experience, support and consistency; when stability not there communities do not flourish and grow.
 - End paragraph on accomplishments this cycle and connect it to theme.

No objections to adding the 2 question to the regional report form about FD committees/focus and what new committees have been created this cycle.

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a. Survey for future literature and service needs – as well as issues

The survey intent is to gather regional conscience prior to the WSC in thinking about future literature desires. The hope is to also get members involved about future literature pieces.

We received 55 Regional Delegate responses, 32 Alternate responses with some responses from non-delegates.

Survey will be added online for all members.

After review of the survey everyone agreed with input and for it to be included with CAR material.

Current Plans for the 2016 CAT

a. WSC Seating recommendations and applications

The board informed that each regional submission was read individually by all workgroup members. We also thanked the staff that assisted and worked with the workgroup.

The workgroup worked directly from the criteria in the Guide to World Service and from that workgroup supported seating understanding their large population base. Junior added that in fairness the two regions are completely different from each other and 40M people are a lot of people but would stay away from just saying the number of people and focus more on cultural differences. Also added was the quality of service they were providing, fund flow, maybe at the risk of being repetitive maybe the remove the geographical focus.

As a cover will publish the WSC workgroup recommendation and the World Board will report the reason regions were not considered.

Questions and comments

Board general statement was that the workgroup did an excellent job and being impressed with workgroups intuitiveness in considering seating requests and recommendations.

- Size of the conference concern comments
- We can remain consistent, flexible and open-minded. Nothing changes that for example New York should work together and that at the same time those seeking seating in Brazil may be recommended for seating.
- Asserted being torn between seating and the need to restructure for the future.
- The conference size is reaching critical mass and this is a stop gap measure and not the future.
- Sustainability is a challenge and this will only to get worse yet need to remain flexible.
- Statement regarding the World Board making a significant choice, taking a significant stand and needing to create reasonable explanation for direction this body is moving forward in.
- Comments from a couple of Board members regarding World Board's recommendations need to be consistent.

Straw Poll results: 13 in favor of supporting WSC Seating recommendation; to seat Grande Sao Paulo, HOW and the Rio de Janeiro regions.

Not being recommended for seating are the Bluegrass Appalachian, Brazil Central, Brazil

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Nordeste, Rio Grande do Sul and Turkey regions.

b. Separate section for regional ideas/proposals

Next steps with the WSC

PowerPoint for the future of the WSC, the collected summary about zones in NA today, and the results of the Role of Zones will go out around same time as the CAR so delegates have in time for the December webinar.

We've asked zones to send information on how they operate, what they do, etc. The packet is informational only. There is only one zone we received very little on, therefore the information will be released that zone's information. The Role of Zones information will also be included with this packet yet there are several that have not responded. This will just be a snap shot of data report and hopefully will also be useful in educating people on what zones are.

Conference participants will receive a packet of information that contains information on why we come together in terms of the CAR and how to improve.

- Introduction, mind-maps, sustainability information etc. will be included.

Under Our Service System

What is our vision and what can we say about services?

A Guide to World Service in the front section and in back section there be an addendum containing foundational principles and how we practice that, one size doesn't fit all, we're collecting practices and continuing to do that.

Under FIPT/Literature Essay

Acknowledge what we are doing, **why we have not filed** lawsuits against those printing and distributing illicit literature, remind of every one of the partnership in identifying where material coming from. Maybe include what it would cost a year to file a lawsuit. The existing essay is very clear, no objection.

Motions

Motions 1 through 14 discussed. Edits made to what is currently written, financial impact will be included for each motion.

Internal WB workgroup on WSC Seating

Recap; the workgroup met several times via webinar, skype and had 3 face to face meetings while at board meetings. March meeting session results summarized.

- All were unanimous and agreed the seating process was not effective and a survey and/or questionnaire should be created for conference participants.
- The board unanimously agreed that the conference should control its size and the need for conference size control is about sustainability and effectiveness.
- The board was also unanimous in thinking that US seating applications should not be considered. US voice is represented by all those already seated.

Also recapped June discussions, and questions in July for the August meeting. The most recent survey questions really about forwarding the discussion to conference participants. The board

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was again asked a series of questions for a survey for conference participants regarding WSC seating (15 board members present).

The board moved on to discuss publishing questions that received 2/3 consensus as well as surveying conference participants. Questions whether publishing responses will be helpful since conference participants already know information, not sure this will move discussion forward.

Suggestion to report done best to preset next steps, the desire to continue to communicate a vision of what the WSC should and could be. Can we agree to offer what the board has come up with thus far? Communicate in 2014 facilitating the Future of the WSC and that vision being a different vision, now the board struggling to come up with a happy medium between the ideas identified at WSC 2014 and what the Board previously presented to the WSC. Ask the conference to be a part of this negotiation of a variety of ideas.

The board traveling to 8 US zones for CAR workshops, need to begin reporting what we need to start thinking about and negotiating. Wonders if while we are out at CAR workshops/zone whether there is any willingness ask participants to think about only sending RD out of that zone as experiment.

Having nothing further to discuss the Executive Committee acknowledged the work done by workgroup with one of the hardest topics this conference has to talk about. The EC agreed to hone down gathered information and frame the next discussion. This internal workgroup has reached a natural ending point and were thanked for their efforts.

Having nothing else to discuss the board meeting ended for the day.

Friday 16 October

9am-5:00pm

NAWS 16-18 Strategic Plan with J.D. Facilitator

Paul F is unable to attend today's session.

This is the final session of the streamlined planning process.

The Board discussed critical concepts:

1. Essential role of PR and how all the bodies play a major role
2. Making the vision meaningful for everyone, customizing our message
3. Being able to communicate in a way that reaches, informs and inspires but doesn't direct.
4. Value and impact and spiritual necessary of collaboration. Not always present in service but always present in recovery
5. Providing tools, concise that embodies principles and that empowers the users.

Saturday 17 October

KRA: Public Relations

Review of the draft and cover for a pamphlet for professionals regarding medicalization of addiction treatment and the NA Third Tradition

Staff reported that input from last meeting incorporated and In Times of Illness (ITOI) removed because this pamphlet for doctors and ITOI focused on members.

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Next draft will be at January 2016 meeting, draft will also be shared with Doctors as test group and released to delegates afterward.

The Board has to be aware that once we begin putting this in the hands of doctors we may have challenges where there are no meetings therefore we should begin reach out to RD's and advise about those possible challenges.

KRA: Sustainability of NAWS and Corporate Responsibility

Financial Update

As of August 2015 we have 129 operating days and happy to report building back our operating reserves. Our current financial ratio position is 15.6. Income statement and snap shots explained.

Living Clean literature sales trend pointed out. There is some concern with the income level for Living Clean book and it seemingly being soon in the products life cycle for it to be plateauing. There was also dialog regarding how we handle debt owed by many regional offices. Oftentimes their balance is forgiven allowing offices to continue to function, that in turn is a bad business practice for NAWS. Understand our philosophical mission yet must have a business sense for what is best for NAWS as well. Our message must tie in shared responsibility to Vision Statement, paint a bigger picture to the fellowship regarding of this practice of writing off literature debt which many are unaware of.

WCNA

Our report will be forthright and honest, touch on uncontrollable global economy and having no control on country exchange rates. There were unexpected low registration numbers also having been in the facility more than double the normal time which ballooned expenses enormously. Expense for merchandise was less and we took in less. Also in a contractual lock that could not be changed. Report what we will and won't do again. We will look at the modifying the model of world conventions in general.

Describe the good will and the community – the collateral fellowship development benefit. **2015 Year End – Sustainability**

Here's what we heard, here are the dilemmas and talk about needs, reporting that we are trying to do what has been asked. Use the data on role of zone; let them help us describe what they want in the role of seating.

Talk about gathered information and see if we can walk further down the road, allowing for allow for discussions in their own region.

- When asked conference participants what they saw down the road, what they saw was zonal seating.
- If we see seating of zones in the future we have to first identify what the role of zone is, what does that look like. Using some of that we learned and possibly can create something.
- There is a lot of information from the Planning workgroup that can be added. We said at the last conference that these are ideas.

The World Board report will be here's what we heard, here are the dilemmas and let's talk about what those needs are.

Price of the CAR AND CAT

CAT - \$11.00 and the CAR - \$15.00.

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Upcoming Production Items

Journal

Differences of from the last sample is the bookmark that will have a ribbon, the front silver page as well as the separator for each month.

The board agreed with the proceeding with the production of the journal with the reported differences.

Discussion on changing or removing the word tolerance from the bookmark however after more discussion the majority of the board was not opposed to keeping.

Sample medallion holder passed around. Available late November 2015.

7th Tradition Box

Box sample shown.

- Create a larger opening on top.
- For everything on the box indicate where/piece from.

The board agreed to proceed with the production of the 7th Tradition box. Pricing for the 7th Tradition box and the key tag holder will be done by email.

2016 Calendar

Still researching sturdier stands for the calendar.

Approve August 2nd Draft 2015 Minutes

The board approved the 2nd draft of the August World Board minutes as amended.

Restated Banking Resolutions 2015-2016

Banking resolutions revised to accommodate the comptrollers name change from Hall to Carnahan. The board agreed with amended 15-16 Corporate Resolutions.

Action Item List (affirm recommendations on project ideas)

H&I Handbook; staff will thank him for the idea and will we'll include in the CAR survey.

Proposing 7 four day meetings for the budget for 2016-2018

Discussion on modeling the behavior on cost saving. Eliminating a board meeting would be a saving action of \$50K per cycle. If decision made to eliminate a planned meeting there won't be a big meeting gap because meetings will be scheduled accordingly and concentrate topics differently. There is also the ability to use subgroups wherever and whenever necessary. .

There were objections to eliminating 1 board meeting in 2016-2018 cycle... The board not being able to reach a decision decided to discuss this further.

EC proposal for January WB discussions and for the WB budget for the next cycle

This discussion about the January meeting being more about filling gaps on the board.

After some personal comments regarding the meeting in general being awkward and uncomfortable the board agreed with the EC developing a frame for this discussion in January.

March meeting time should be used differently and be more collaborative. The board agreed with the

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EC framing and developing discussion further for the next meeting.

Plans for the December CP Webinar

No discussed.

Event Support Disclaimer

The disclaimer wording will be sent to the board for approval. Deadline will be included.

Inmate Letter regarding illicit literature

If it's known that a local community is experiencing distribution of illicit literature they can contact NAWS. This responsibility will stay with NAWS staff. Adding a template to the PR Handbook will be discussed at another time.

World Board meeting ended at 5:30pm on Saturday, October 17, 2015.

APPROVED

JAN 09 2016