

# WORLD SERVICE CONFERENCE OF NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS

P.O. Box 9999  
Van Nuys, CA 91409  
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To: Conference Participants  
From: Michael Lee, Chairperson  
World Literature Committee  
Subject: World Literature Committee Minutes  
Date: July 23, 1987

At the 1987 World Service Conference the following motion was carried by near unanimous voice vote:

"That all WSC Board and Committee minutes be sent to all RSR's.

Intent: To give more information to RSC's on how decisions are made."

To comply with this motion, all minutes of future World Literature Committee meetings will be provided to all Conference participants after committee approval.

Therefore, I have enclosed the minutes from the World Literature Committee's meetings held June 13-14. These were approved at our most recent meeting held July 18.

ML/DC/ng

Enc: WLC 6/13/87 Minutes

*nancywalcmin*

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## WSC LITERATURE COMMITTEE JUNE 13-14, 1987 MINUTES

### PRESENT WERE:

Michael Lee  
Vince Daley  
Danette Creel  
Greg Pierce  
Sydney Rosen  
Bo Sewell  
Paul Butterbaugh  
Tony Dee  
Mark Earle  
Mickie Hatfield  
Linda Lundgren  
Mac McFadden  
Terry Ott  
Mark Peters  
Joseph Proctor  
Al Reisser  
Steve Bice  
Gerrie Durkin  
Lori Little  
Doug Wheaton  
Bonnie Harvey  
Donna Markus

World Lit. Com. Chair  
World Lit. Com. Vice-Chair  
WSO Coordinator  
BOT Liaison  
BOT Liaison  
BOT Liaison  
WLC Member (GA)  
WLC Member (CA)  
WLC Member (OR)  
WLC Member (IN)  
WLC Member (CO)  
WLC Member (OH)  
WLC Member (VA)  
WLC Member (DC)  
WLC Member (TN)  
WLC Member (PA)  
Lit. Review Com. (CA)  
Lit. Review Com. (AZ)  
Lit. Review Com. (Brit. Columbia)  
Lit. Review Com. (FL)  
WLC Member (PA)  
BOD Liason (NY)

### ABSENT WERE:

Kim Johnson

Lit. Review Com. (NY)

### VISITORS:

Rick Matthews and a friend (CA)

The meeting opened June 13, 1987 at 9:00 a.m. with the Serenity Prayer.

Introductions of members took place, as well as the announcement of staff changes within WSO. Positions have been changed and Danette Creel will be the WLC coordinator for an interim period. Ginni is continuing with her

responsibilities for translation and production.

Michael indicated the availability of newly approved literature: *The Loner* and *Welcome to Narcotics Anonymous* are in stock at WSO at this time with the *Handbook for Narcotics Anonymous Literature Committees Newly Revised* upcoming shortly.

There was then discussion about the recent (June 6) Joint Administrative Committee Meeting and its focus on the WSC budget. Cuts are very likely and, depending on the amount of money received from the Fellowship, a cut in WLC's planned activities this year may be necessary. Please share throughout your regions the need for discussion of and adherence to the Seventh Tradition.

Fellowship reports are due alternate months, beginning with June. Michael stated his willingness to accept input from WLC members for each of those reports. Anyone having any suggestions for inclusion in Fellowship Reports must communicate with Michael no later than the third week of each of those months.

The Chairperson reported on the motion passed at the 1987 WSC which requires that all WSC Board and Committee minutes be distributed to all RSR's. To comply with this motion, the World Literature Committee will begin a new procedure of approving the minutes of the previous meeting. M/S/C (as amended below) Doug, Linda "to accept the WLC minutes of 4/28-5/1/87 vote - 17/0/2

M/S/C "to amend the minutes to reflect a brief discussion about a proposed motion to give WLC discretionary authority to make necessary changes in N.A. literature resulting from WSC change in one or more literature items that affects other literature items and/or WSC change in policy or procedure. Further discussion and decision on this was tabled to the June 13, 1987 agenda"

A fifteen minute discussion of agenda items resulted in general agreement to address Items 5-7 first and others as time allows. Items 5-7 listed as follows: Item 5: Procedural Guidelines--How do we live with them this year? Literature Review Committee - Registered Members - How should we work together this year? Participation of regional literature committee chairs and visitors at the quarterly meetings; how can we make this less awkward? Item 6: Literature Guidelines - What changes do we need for the future? Process - How are we going to come up with a revised set of guidelines? July open forum to gather input on guidelines? Item 7: Planning - Priority List for 1987-88. The Twelve Traditions are Priority #1; How much work are we going to do before publishing a review form draft? Ranking the items on our priority list; What are our goals for this year in terms of producing review-form or approval-form drafts? Based on your first evaluation of this material, what needs the most work, what are we ready to work on ourselves, and what do we want to assign to literature committees, ad-hoc committees, or others? The committee was also informed of JAC's recommendation to discuss, during at least two committee meetings, material that is to be included in the 1988 Conference Agenda Report.

Discussion opened on Procedural Guidelines. There was a long discussion that covered many aspects of the guidelines including their history, intent, how they have been followed in the past, and the need to continue to follow them this year until the WSC approves alternative guidelines. There was a lot of confusion about the description of the relationship between the Literature Review Committee and the Registered Members in the guidelines. Consensus emerged that the roles between the two groups had somehow been reversed. Concern was expressed about participation being closed at the July and October Conference Workshops. Other specific items in the guidelines which needed to be changed or addressed were brought up by individual members.

Discussion was halted to ask for a consensus on how Lit. Review and Registered Members can work together for this year.

M/S Steve, Bo "that WLC accept participation of area and regional literature chairs at Conference workshops"

A substitute motion was accepted from Greg "that the July WLC meeting be open to regional and area lit. chairs (or their reps.) as participants"

Motion withdrawn

A straw vote indicated 10/8/1 in favor of the above.

Michael suggested to try the following in Newark - break up into ad-hoc committees using a combination of WLC and any lit. chairs (or reps), but when WLC meets as a whole only WLC members will be voting participants.

There was a plea from several members to allow only regional lit. chairs to participate so as not to circumvent the service structure. A line was read from the Guidelines, page 21, last paragraph, second sentence, which limits participation to WLC members. It was, however, agreed that WLC Chair can appoint ad-hoc committee's to include non WLC members.

The committee agreed to the following:

To allow regional literature chairs or their representatives to participate and vote in ad-hoc workshop groups at the July workshop.. These regional chairs. and/or reps will not vote in committee business but could participate in the meeting at the WLC Chairperson's discretion.

There was a request that the previous discussion on the July Workshop be mentioned in the July Fellowship Report.

The committee recessed for lunch at 12:30 p.m. and reconvened at 1:45 p.m.

Michael re-opened discussion on the relationship between Registered members and Lit. Review members. What process can we agree to? Who gets first drafts first?

Paragraphs on page 20-21 were read and invited the following interpretations:



Lit. review should be getting drafts, not writing from input or factoring in input

Lit Review should critique after a board or committee decides an item is in its final draft form

The paragraphs work if they're followed the way they're written. Implementation has veered from the intent.

Michael suggested Lit. Review review and recommend, not write. The manner in which the Guidelines have been used since their approval is not necessarily the best nor do we have to continue the same way.

Mark expressed concern over discussion branching out too much. Would like to address specific details line by line in the Guidelines.

Vince asked for a consensus that WLC be responsible for factoring in all input of all drafts and have full participation of all WLC members at WLC meetings. Suggested then moving on to discuss ways of getting the work done, utilizing task forces, etc.

M/S Al, Paul "that all WLC members receive copies of all input" withdrawn

Michael stated his intention of using the earlier passed motion to form ad-hoc committees of appointees to work on specific projects. Input in general will go to specific groups. The work would go from there to the whole committee and then, either to Lit. Review or back for more work.

Greg requested work be done on an input procedure, ie., who gets input, who decides where to disperse it, etc.

It was agreed that input related to specific projects would be forwarded to the appropriate ad-hoc committee.

Discussion was closed on Items 5 and 6. Michael will appoint an ad-hoc committee to work on the Procedural Guidelines.

A suggestion was made and accepted to have Michael write and send a letter to all regional lit. committees advising them of the opportunity to participate at the July conference workshop open forum and the necessity of them having written input.

The Chairperson then changed the order of the day to allow Vince as Chairperson of the separate WSC Ad-hoc Committee on *It Works* to read the draft of his Fellowship Report and letter for informational purposes. The report was well received, and questions and answers followed.

In response to an unrelated point raised in discussion, Michael expressed his desire for '87-'88 WLC to take a final look at this year's approval-form literature items prior to WSC '88.

In further discussion on *It Works* Ad-hoc, the following question was raised-- Can input received so far be sent to members on request? It was clarified that

the purpose of the ad-hoc committee is to *solicit input* not to review or factor in input or write the book.

M/S/C "that input received from '87-'88 workshops will be compiled into a master list of its own, and then put together with all other input already on file and submitted to the WLC at the end of the Ad-hoc Committee process." vote - not recorded

Michael stated that the WSC motion gave WLC chair authority to appoint four WLC members to the ad-hoc committee, which he is waiting to do until other appointments are made by BOT and WSO BOD.

Recessed for one half hour and reconvened at 5:45 p.m.

Discussion opened on Agenda Item 7 - Priority List: Michael encouraged WLC members to submit any input on traditions for that Ad-hoc Committee meeting on 6/27/87.

Michael gave a detailed history of the process followed thus far resulting in the present draft of the traditions.

Additional discussion ensued for approximately one and one-half hours. Consensus was that the traditions draft still needs a lot of work.

M/S/C (as amended) "that the June 27 ad-hoc committee meeting change emphasis using the blue draft as the basis and writer's draft as well as review and approval copies of Basic Text as input and begin evaluation and consideration of all Fellowship input received. vote - 13/2/2

Discussion then returned to the priority list and what the agenda should be for the Newark meeting.

M/S/C (as amended) "to send *In Loving Service* to specific regions for further work, without the section on the traditions (chapter two)." vote - 9/3/7

M/S/C "to split the WLC into three or possibly four task forces in Newark to work on: *Questions & Answers, For Those in Treatment, In Times of Illness* and traditions, as well as an outline on *Unity* if time permits." vote--not recorded

Committee recessed at 8:30 p.m. to reconvene at 9:00 a.m., Sunday

## SESSION II 6/14/87

The meeting opened at 9:20 a.m. with the Serenity Prayer.

Michael informed the committee that above projects will be targeted in Newark meeting. He will still appoint an ad-hoc committee to work on guidelines separately.

Regarding the traditions, the ad-hoc meeting on 6/27 will break into two groups to address Traditions One through Five and Introduction. There will be another group formed at the Newark meeting. Michael also informed the Committee that he would like to continue to use an ad-hoc committee process to work on the traditions throughout the year.

Additional discussion regarding Newark resulted in a consensus for Michael to send a letter to regional literature chairs (with a cc: to RSC's) informing them that they will be allowed to participate in the meeting if they bring written input.

Further discussions regarding Item 12 on the agenda ensued, the nature of input and correspondence that has been received and how it is handled.

Item 8 - *Just for Today*: discussion ensued for approximately 45 minutes and resulted in a consensus to include examples of the different types of formats received with a survey that is to be sent to registered lit. committees. This task was assigned to Tony D. to develop and present to WLC.

Item 9: Discussion (approx. 1 hr.) regarding the Basic Text and other items not on current priority worklist. Consensus was to place an item in the '88 Conference Agenda Report asking the Fellowship for direction on the Basic Text. (Note: This item will be discussed at a subsequent WLC meeting)

The committee recessed for 30 minutes

Brief discussion of motion passed yesterday regarding *In Loving Service* and it was:

M/S/C "to reconsider the motion to send *In Loving Service* to specific regions for further work, without the section on the traditions (Chapter 2)" vote 11/4/1.

M/S/C "to table the main motion until the October meeting" vote 15/0/1

At the request of several members, the Committee discussed the issue of WLC members obtaining financial support from their home Region to attend WLC meetings. Discussion revealed that this was not a simple issue and that there was no consensus to send out any kind of letter to regions asking for this kind of support. Any WLC members who wish to may submit input on this matter to Michael.

M/S/C "to table proposal for a newsletter for area/regional literature committees" vote - not recorded

Discussion of Item 10 (artwork on review and approval form and new literature items): The only consensus reached was to consider each item individually as it is completed.

M/S/C "to table Item 11 (translations) to the Newark meeting, pending a written report providing more information" vote - unanimous

M/S/C "to table Item 14 (proposed motion to give WLC discretionary authority to update lit items affected by adoption or revision of other items) to the October meeting" vote - not recorded

Miscellaneous discussion continued until 1:45 p.m., at which time the meeting adjourned with a prayer.

THESE MINUTES WERE APPROVED JULY 18, 1987 WITH THE FOLLOWING CHANGES:

BOD Liason, Donna Markus was added to the list of those present. On page 2, paragraph five it was agreed to list items 5-7.

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*danette.dir*