

Narcotics Anonymous World Services, Inc.

Approved World Board Minutes

5-8 August 2015

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

Staff: Becky, Eileen, Jane, Travis and various staff members joined to report on certain segments of the agenda as well as participate in the strategic planning session on Thursday.

Wednesday 5 August

Agenda/Work plan review and plans for the 2016 CAR and CAT

CAR

Progress to date on regional motions. This agenda item focus is about assisting delegates with getting their motions CAR ready.

Mukam and Junior assigned to work with motion submitters and briefly touched on how a lot of time and attention is spent assisting Regional Delegates getting their motions CAR ready. The CAR will have an introductory piece that explains the process and why the decision made to suggest delegates speak to each other about motions with similar intents. Also a delegate is requesting the ability to submit a proposal in the CAT regarding the selection process for Issue Discussion Topics (IDT). This will be discussed later in the agenda. Once motions are CAR ready they will be provided to the Board.

The body discussed their varying thoughts on the decision to allow a motion to be made by three regions.

CAR Summary

A two sentence summary will be added to the CAR cheat sheet motion list to better explain it in the event members don't have the CAR with them.

Conference Participant/World Board webinar date: Saturday, December 12 at 10am Pacific.

Possible survey for literature and service needs – as well as other topics

The plan is to ask (232) RD's and RDA's to provide input to the survey draft and the ideas contained. This will be followed up with including the survey in the CAR and posting online for fellowship input. World Board will review the survey responses from conference participants at the October meeting.

The board agreed with creating a survey for conference participants and having 10 days to review and finalize prior to sending to delegates.

EC recommends creating a CAR PowerPoint and video again

The World Board concurs with creating a PowerPoint and video for the 2016 CAR.

WSC - Plans for the 2016 CAT

A question from Florida received about placing a proposal in the CAT rather than the CAR. The EC is recommending that we try this for WSC 2016 as a possible step in evolving discussions.

EC recommends mailing regional proposals with the CAT for 2016 WSC. This will be reported in *NAWS News* as well as reported in the conference participant e-blast if direction affirmed. World Board brainstormed ideas on how to best present to minimize confusion.

Narcotics Anonymous World Services, Inc.

Approved World Board Minutes

5-8 August 2015

The idea of using some supplement to put forth proposals is a good thought and a positive way to engage members in discussion. The only other mechanism is the *March Conference Report* and that is too close to the WSC to be effective. If included with the CAT it call be made clear that is it not a part of the CAT as well as pointed out in communications that accompanies the CAT.

There were other board members concerned with the idea of including this piece with the CAT, not wanting this to have an unintended consequences where members use the CAT to circumventing the process.

Is supportive of the idea of fellowship discussion and needing more concrete ideas and ways to accomplish but not supportive of Florida's piece accompanying the CAT because there is already a process in place.

The body as a whole asked "what process can be developed to make "discussion process more inclusive" and that could be followed by more fellowship wide discussion.

After concluding discussion majority of the board agreed with including Florida's proposal with the CAT.

WSC Themes

The theme for the upcoming cycle is introduced on the cover of the CAR.

Theme ideas are:

- The 5 C's; communication, collaboration, contributions, connections, common welfare=the intro needs. 3 people don't like the 5 C's.
- Every member inspired by the gift of recovery
- Our Common Welfare
- Spirit of Unity and Cooperation
- Honesty, Trust and Goodwill
- Spiritual Growth and fulfillment through service
- ...Love and service together; in loving service
- Engaging the spirit
- Inspired by the Gift

Selected theme for WSC 2016 is *Honesty, Trust and Goodwill*. This is taken directly from the Vision Statement.

KRA: Member and Group Support

Traditions Book

Report on the progress to date, results of R&I, and upcoming plans and Name for the book

Workgroup report recapped. Fellowship seems content with material. Also talked about the range in numbers for group/service committee's questions and the number of questions for members. Talked about reducing size of the book/structural changes and that bridge sections are still being thought out.

First R&I drafts compared to current

Word count is about 85K, shooting for 60K, however still looking for more questions.

Narcotics Anonymous World Services, Inc.

Approved World Board Minutes

5-8 August 2015

Tradition 1 is almost revised, still working on Tradition 2 and 3 and workgroup has web meetings every 2 weeks. Tradition 1-6 should be completed by September during workgroup meeting. Workgroup still trying to work through logistics of translations in order to get participation from Iran.

Traditions Book Title Discussion

At this meeting the board voted on the title "Guiding Principles... and Engaging Members in the Spirit of the Traditions" as a title for the book. Other titles ideas are:

- The Twelve Traditions: Principles and Practice
- Our Common Welfare, a Guide for Practicing the Twelve Traditions
- The Ties that Bind
- Tradition Guide Us
- Traditions: Guiding Principles
- Twelve Traditions Principles and Practice – 6
- Guiding principles in the spirit...

Decision: Guiding Principles: Engaging in the Spirit of the Traditions.

Upon returning from lunch staff continued reporting on the Traditions book project.

As was previously stated, workgroup looking at reducing the word count from 85K to 60-65K and one of the ways to achieve is by removing the bridge sections. The body had a dialog about the workgroups idea to remove callout boxes and bridges as a way to reduce word count and weaving gems back into the text.

Some of World Board thoughts are that the bridges are fine, it helps break up the text, helps members find what they want, otherwise it all looks the same. A board member recalls hearing the fellowship didn't just want narratives and questions, wanting something more like a workbook or a working book. And, if bridges are removed, all we have left is context and questions.

There were others that were fine with removing the bridges; since too much creates too much complexity, too disruptive from the flow of the essay or just too overwhelming. The also seemed to create a more wordy chapter.

Also pointed out was that bridge connections can be made via questions.

It was decided to ask the workgroup to review removing bridges.

KRA: Service System

Decision Making at the WSC

WSC Decision Making Workgroup report recapped.

Next workgroup meeting is August 16-18 at the WSO. Workgroup focusing on ways to forward and consider ideas for discussion and creating tools for the Cofacilitator's use at the conference, e.g. Rules and Tools. The workgroup also considering methods of collecting discussion ideas and ways to include regions in the Strategic Planning process.

The board talked about their ideas for ways to include RD's in the strategic planning process:

Ideas

Narcotics Anonymous World Services, Inc.

Approved World Board Minutes

5-8 August 2015

- At the end of the WSC ask RD's what they would like to see incorporated.
- Zonal forums attended routinely and could be a part of where RD's asked what they would like to see discussed.
- Maybe Trip Reports can be sent to delegates to help them see the board heard their ideas or concerns.
- CBDM essay contains foundational principles suggest someone pick them out, list and create a tool. Developing ways to reaffirm the principles we've all agreed to and creating tools to support that.
- Challenge will be keeping things running while creating something new, collecting information through the cycle. Suggests having a planning meeting to create positive reaction, even if it's just an exercise that brings in people.
- Create rigid discussion guidelines; while this won't be immediately successful it can change tone at WSC incrementally. The challenge with this is the that you may not hear the best idea cause time is up or that non-English speakers don't understand. However if successful, time has been created to have more discussions in the long run.

General comments

- Mind mapping worked very well because conference participants saw that their input did not get lost.
- At some point the board must address finding a way to have a discussion based conference and the challenges associated.
- Workgroup asked to find better approaches for how we make decisions at the conference and how business sessions carried out.
- How do we balance the participation between those that speak less and those that are overassertive?
- Planning our Future (PoF) has an idea that suggests decisions be made at the zones and those decisions be forwarded to WSC. The idea is to basically de-emphasize the decision making for old business, removing its focus. For example, if we know everyone in favor of approving xyz then is it necessary to spend a lot of time discussing? Planning our Future workgroup still exploring that line of thinking.

Decision-making at the WSC reporting session ended and after a break the Board went into a closed sharing session.

Thursday 6 August

NAWS 16-18 Strategic Plan

After a moment of silence, Serenity prayer and a few announcements the Board spent the day discussing different aspects of part 2 of the Strategic Plan.

Supporting Data from Discussion

Insights Gained from Discussion of External Opportunities

Outreach and Communication

- Use NAWS participation in fellowship events to reach potential partners.

Narcotics Anonymous World Services, Inc.

Approved World Board Minutes

5-8 August 2015

- We need to communicate via multiple media, based on awareness of the audience, their preferences and abilities.
- We need to have a content and messaging strategy, including the use of social media to:
 - Inspire
 - Inform
 - Message
 - Shape opinion and understanding and awareness
 - Have a presence for NA and for NAWS
- We need to have a communication strategy that maximizes the delegation stream as well as reaches the group member directly.

Fellowship Development and Public Relations

- Can't do one without the other ('no FD without PR')
 - In many individuals' minds, this is not a natural connection.
 - Our FD and PR planning, training and communication processes must be integrated (Zones may be the best place to do that – perhaps attach an event to a Zonal meeting).
- Set specific goals for NAWS to accomplish in attending Zonal forums, in addition to asking what they would like NAWS to cover.

Insights Gained from Discussion of Internal Opportunities

Communication

- Communication will be more powerful when sharing stories that touch the heart as well as the mind, and when individual stories can link to global impact.
- We need to change the relationship NAWS has with the fellowship.
- We need to make the NA Vision for Service real in recovery terms.

Collaboration

- How can we encourage members to bring the same collaboration and empathy they see the value of in recovery to involvement in service?
- We need to make better use of Zones to further collaboration in service.
- We need to demonstrate that 'autonomy' and 'collaboration' are not polarities, but can co-exist in balance.

Tools

- We need to encourage service bodies to adapt tools – take the basics and run with it. We need to 'empower' and not 'direct'.

NAWS Role

- We need to tap the power of the fellowship to realize the vision – collaborate, inspire, support, encourage – rather than assume that NAWS can or should do it alone.

Narcotics Anonymous World Services, Inc.

Approved World Board Minutes

5-8 August 2015

- NAWS needs to be a source of experience (e.g., in PR), but work more to build capacity in others to move forward.
- We need to clarify roles of the components of the Service System and show them how the vision is relevant and 'scalable' to have meaning at their levels (and provides tools to support this).
 - The Vision needs to be understood and owned by ALL; it needs to be actionable at all levels of the Service System.

Engaging Regional Delegates

Changes Made at 2014 Conference

- Discussions to gather input on the needs of NA and the 'why we come together' (the Service System).
- Foster an increased sense of collaboration and investment in the goals and priorities of NAWS.

Options for How to Increase Engagement Going Forward

- RD survey to gather input for general member survey on priorities for recovery and service literature, book length pieces and IDTs.
- Begin to frame a discussion on group conscience and how that evolves with Region input and discussion/decision at the WSC (tie into the discussion on the vision for the Conference).
 - Be clearer on what asking the RDs to do in bringing back input via the CAR and for other discussions at the Conference (e.g., 'input into a collective conscience from around the world').
 - Make it easier for the RD to engage in discussion at the Conference on issues rather than feel they must vote based on group conscience/decision.
- More effectively support RDs in communication Conference results back in the Region (some tool or video or both).

The Board stated their continued commitment to assisting delegates tell their local communities the story of what happens at the World Service Conference.

The Strategic Plan session ended

Friday 7 August

KRA: Trusted Servant Development

WB Operating Values Group session was facilitated by Tali, Irene, Tonia and Paul F.

Irene will begin the stream for the board discussion for the many ideas that came out of this exercise regarding any additional changes to the CAR for the October meeting discussion.

KRA: Sustainability of NAWS and Corporate Responsibility

The meeting opened the meeting with a moment of silence, followed by the Serenity prayer and made a few announcements.

Narcotics Anonymous World Services, Inc.

Approved World Board Minutes

5-8 August 2015

WCNA 36

World conventions provide a unique occasion for Board members to interact with the local fellowship they otherwise would not get. World conventions are also as much about fellowship development and another avenue that serves to potentially impact our relationship with local government officials.

Anthony began the WCNA 36 report with kudos to Paul C and Tali for the success with the program; he heard and received many compliments on speakers.

The Brazil support committee members were amazing and the first time committee empowered for the acquisition of many things. They were active in finding additional ways to reduce costs. In addition to the workgroup members, we had extraordinary efforts from Junior, Jose, and Joao in helping to manage the event. We are still in the process of reconciling registration numbers and conversion rate, refunds are still coming in and some may take up to 90 days.

There were many unexpected challenges with doing business in Brazil; this possibly reshaping future model for non US events (planning model, communication, translation and AV expenses just to name a few). Expenses were spent mainly on facility, translation equipment and translators. Facility expense ballooned because our normal hours of operation are 18 and theirs are 12. This meant being billed additional amounts for electricity, air conditioning, cleaning etc. adding another \$60-\$70K. Normally we would have moved early morning and evening activities to a hotel as we did in Philadelphia. When we finally pulled out of even trying to arrange for hotels, this option was not less costly. There were also a series of issues with the US based Housing Company and the actual hotel where we stayed which also added to the overall expenses.

Junior shared his involvement in the professional session, giving Jane kudos for organizing such a successful workshop where there were about 500 people in attendance. One of the doctors from that session has now invited the Brazilian PR committee to attend an upcoming event. Inigo's TV interview received many compliments. Was however disappointed at the registration numbers, thought more members would have attended and amazed how difficult it was to do business in Brazil.

Discussion

The host committee was spectacular. People in Brazil in general were so wonderful. We've known all along that we were in a situation that the cost of things was beyond anything we could control and invaluable to the local fellowship. Believe we did a great thing, but recognize it will be difficult helping others understand the value of experience to Brazilian members. Questions if 3 years still may be too often. Probably one of the few people believes maybe world conventions should be limited to the United States.

- In the future think it might be more beneficial if we were clearer regarding money needed for a particular country where event held.
- Was really proud to see the World Board rolling up their sleeves. Thanked staff, Junior and the local support members for hospitality and work. One really special moment was when the group from a favela arrived on the last day; we never know the positive ripple effects.
- Especially enjoyed the fact that he had never heard any of the speakers share before (not circuit speakers). Only disappointment was with attendance numbers and how Unity Day can sometimes take too long resulting in some prisons to having to hang up.

Staff will create talking points on WCNA cost, strategy etc.

Narcotics Anonymous World Services, Inc.

Approved World Board Minutes

5-8 August 2015

Future WCNA Discussion

- When discussions begin will talk about the reliance of merchandise, will have to consider how global events affect us; for example in Brazil whose economy tanked and affected our bottom line.
- To take a look at the overall outcome expectations, planning, criteria for location selection, and pricing.

Planning Our Future- Ideas about communication:

- Results of a workgroup brainstorm on talking points
- Feedback on a possible delegate survey

Workgroup met 4 times since the last board meeting and had a joint meeting with the WSC Decision-Making workgroup. Both groups are considering another joint meeting. The group talked about how to better communicate with the fellowship and would like the board to consider a PowerPoint, a conference participant survey and talking points.

Board members liked the concept of the PowerPoint (pp) and how the presentation was clear and concise. (.)

Decision: A PowerPoint video about the future of the WSC will be developed along with a survey.

Virtual Workgroup

There was also a dialog concerning everyone's thoughts on virtual workgroups continuing beyond the October meeting. Everyone agreed that other than the Delegate Sharing workgroup the other virtual workgroups are winding down and will be determining the last meeting date. No objections from the Board.

Internal WB workgroup on WSC Seating

WB/WSC Seating virtual group

Workgroup has formulated questions for conference participants. Any input will be worked into the questions and will be reviewed again at the October meeting. The questions are only to frame thoughts in order to begin framing a World Board thoughts for discussion at the conference.

Other Workgroup Reports/Updates

Delegate Sharing and WSC Seating are informational updates only. No decision or discussion needed at this time.

Saturday 8 August

KRA: Public Relations

Review ideas for the content of a pamphlet for professionals regarding medicalization of addiction treatment and the NA Third Tradition.

The goal of the pamphlet is to create something similar to *information about NA IP* for professionals regarding medicalization of addiction treatment and the Third Tradition of Narcotics Anonymous. The desire is for the IP's composition to state our view on addiction, to describe what Narcotics Anonymous is and isn't, use content from our literature and state how it relates to potential members on medication and using quotes from the *Only Requirement* in narrative.

Narcotics Anonymous World Services, Inc.

Approved World Board Minutes

5-8 August 2015

Input and Discussion

- We are trying to find a way to acknowledge the contradiction because the only requirement for membership is a desire to stop using and you're a member when you say you are. Does our efforts at stressing the 3rd Tradition disregard that premise? And in trying to answer a doctors questions about these issues thinks we need to find a way to discuss those contradictions and what happens in meetings.
- It's not what we say but how we behave. Acknowledge that we understand professionals hearing conflicting statements in our literature and our Traditions regarding full abstinent. Some meetings are stricter than others and that their clients can find groups more compatible with them. Give a realistic picture of what occurs.
- Seems we should help professionals help clients prepare and understand our principles or would it be helpful to make a recommendation to say something like at the first meeting maybe you just want to come in and listen.
- Can we add language that says NA is a community and a lifestyle that supports staying clean and NA is compatible for them if they intend to get clean. In the intermediate come to the meetings and watch us, listen. There are other people that intend to stay on DRT and our program may possibly not be compatible.
- Possibly call out having relationship or communication with local PR communities or NA communities which would help professionals direct their clients. Suggest leaving a space for local NA community sticker.
- Likes the quote regarding clean time and that we resolve with this issue with the Higher Power and sponsor. We do need find a way to communicate there may be some with mental health issues that may never get off medication and can be of service. Safe place for them in NA, also have a quote about that in the ITOI.
- Suggests a statement that says something about it being a good idea that they allow NA meeting H&I meeting in their facility.
- Wondering if references to IP 22 and 29 should be mentioned in piece.

Decision: The board had no objection with IP content direction, including the boards input.

Financial Update

Anthony reported that Auditors are currently on site this week. We are fiscally healthy with assets versus liabilities as illustrated with our 6:1 ratio. We've received over \$1M in contributions and thankful to members, groups, areas, regions that were able to contribute.

There may be a strike at one to the west coast ports and why our inventory is high – this is about insulating ourselves against the strike.

NAWS Headquarters building and Building B lease renewal

Our building lease expires this year and working with the broker on signing a 5 year lease with a 5 year extension for the 19737 Nordhoff Place building. Building B is the same owner/broker. Warehouse B is 24 ft. stackable space which allows us to store an increased inventory. We are

Narcotics Anonymous World Services, Inc.

Approved World Board Minutes

5-8 August 2015

attempting to consolidate both leases in our negotiations. This is for informational purpose only no decision necessary.

Upcoming Production Items

Journal: The blue colored journal came from a regional convention in Bangalore. It's a *just for today* journal with a quote on each page. The difference is the presented flexible cover material. The board affirmed proceeding with the journal, price point will be provided to the body later and all this depends on material.

Etched medallion keychain: We are also looking at the etched medallion keychain holder and trying to get a holder made from a company in China. Thinking it will be alloy with some type of aluminum however not sure. The board affirmed proceeding with the etched medallion holder. Will investigate necklace medallion holder sometime in future.

Just for Today 2016 calendar: No objections to producing the 2016 Just for Today calendar. Staff to look into a sturdier calendar holder.

Approve March 2015 Minutes

There were no objections to approving the minutes for March 2015 as presented.

Action Item List – Project Idea Submissions

- a) Living Clean Audio CD received March 2015. The recommendation is: need to evaluate all book length pieces in audio format
- b) Literature for Women (common needs), received May 2015. EC recommendation is: include in CAR survey
- c) "Objections to NA" paper/bulletin, received June 2015. EC recommendation is to include in CAR survey
- d) IDT about Service and received in July 2015. Recommendation is to also include in CAR survey

No objections to the EC recommendations.

Electronic communications within the board

Dialogue about individual World Board member's responsibility to follow up on internal email communications. All agreed that the individual that sent email responsible to follow up.

While in Brazil issue raised regarding having a discussion regarding illicit literature being distributed in institutions and possibly creating a tool for the *H&I Handbook*. Some ideas are to develop an email or letter template from the World Board that could be added to the *H&I handbook*... Decision: MaryEllen will begin the discussion thread for the Board.

KRA: Sustainability of NAWS and Corporate Responsibility

Annual Meeting Requirements

Adopt Corporate Resolutions and NAWS Cafeteria Plan resolution

2015-2016 Corporate Resolutions adopted as presented.

Reaffirm Leadership for 15-16

There were no questions; regarding the affirmation of the current leadership. No objections to affirming leadership for 2014-1-2016.

- The NAWS Organization Chart also affirmed NAWS Organization chart as presented.

Narcotics Anonymous World Services, Inc.

Approved World Board Minutes

5-8 August 2015

WB External Guidelines

These 3 below bullets will be the basis of the CAR for 2016 and already reported in *NAWS News*:

- Ideal size for the future (no more than 15)
- Removing Staggered Terms
- Limit to two lifetime terms

The board agreed that clean time is something they want to consider; however, will not pursue for the CAR. The consensus of the board is not to pursue this for 2016 CAR.

Nominations from the WB to the HRP for this cycle

Number of candidates

Discussion began with discussing whether the board will forward a recommendation on 18 or 15 member size World Board which will help in deciding the how many names to forward. Can forward 9 names to help fill 18 seats or 6 names for a 15 seats and there are 2 current board members that will seek reelection. Decision to fill 15 size board.

Brief discussion on candidates 5 names that received a majority of votes at the March meeting and body agreed that discussion is not needed. Will however have more discussion on other candidates as well as talk about adding to the list.

It was the unanimous decision of the World Board to forward the 5 candidate names along with the 2 Board members seeking reelection to the HRP if the nominees accept.

Reminder that individual names can be sent to Eileen for the shining star list.

Criteria to be used and shared with HRP

Criteria will be shared with the HRP after being discussed at the October 2015 meeting.

World Board meeting ended at 5:14pm

APPROVED

OCT 17 2015