

Narcotics Anonymous World Services, Inc.
Approved Minutes of the World Board Minutes
6-9 January 2016

Present: Tana Agostini, Mary Banner, Ron Blake, Iñigo Calonje Unceta, Paul Craig, Irene Crawley, Paul Fitzgerald, Odilson Gomes Braz Junior, Sharon Harzenski, Arne Hassel-Gren, Mark Hersh, Franney Jardine, Tali McCall, Ron Miller, MaryEllen Polin. Antonia Nikolinakou not present.

Staff: Anthony Edmondson, Becky Meyer, Jane Nickels, Eileen Perez, Steve Rusch, Travis Koplou. Additional staff participated in different sections of the agenda.

Wednesday 6 January

Franney opened the meeting at 9:05 am with a moment of silence followed by the serenity prayer.

KRA: Trusted Servant Development

First session of the day was a discussion session on Some Challenges of Leadership: leading in a group of leaders and answering tough questions.

CAR 2016 Up

Update from CAR Workshops and what we have heard so far regarding division of motion 2

The World Board discussed workshop topics, unresolved issues or anything particular needing further discussion. A majority of CAR workshops attended prior to this meeting went well.

Dividing Motion 2

The old business motions have been established and published. Once a motion is published, it no longer belongs to the maker. Therefore any modifications to any motion will have to be done on the conference floor. We will report being asked to divide motion 2 and what we see as possibilities in *NAWS News*.

Responses to the committed motion and those provided as input at WSC 2014

So. Florida has asked for a response to the 2014 committed proposal. Normal practice is to respond in the *Conference Report*. The Decision Making workgroup reviewed the proposal's content. World Board committed to two things at WSC 2014: to develop something about decision making and discussion. Staff read response written to So. Florida and portion of the WSC record regarding the proposal. Workgroup has completed its task and has gone as far as it could with this proposal. This will be reported in an upcoming eblast to conference participants.

WB Leadership and the Upcoming Cycle

This was a closed World Board discussion with no staff recording.

Thursday 7 January

2016 CAT Material

The chair opened the meeting with a moment of silence followed by the serenity prayer. After which Mark asked for a personal moment to talk about the memorial for Bob G where Franney, Anthony and Becky were present. The Gray family was appreciative.

Strategic Plan 2016-2018

Comparing the two versions – what came out of the October session and what is now being proposed

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One of the challenges with a Strategic Plan is its lack of clarity. Version 4 is simple, useable and more fellowship friendly. Priorities at a Glance show the focuses and what we hope to accomplish. A recovery objective was added which is much like tools. The strategy is what can be done in a single cycle and we have tried to create strategies that can be successful. If delegates agree with the Strategic Plan, both the World Board and the delegates will work collaboratively – a joint commitment towards the objectives of the plan.

No objection to the look, and priorities. This document communicates what the World Board wants to say to delegates and new WB members for the next conference cycle.

WSC Seating: The objective is to create a statement, objectives or an IDT to keep the discussion going that helps us to have more discussion with two components; seating and what are we going to do about our future. Objective in the Strategic Plan that focuses on: The Future of the WSC.

We did take on creating tools for the service system. Straw poll on title: *future of the WSC – unanimous.* Will develop something that communicates what we hope to accomplish with the WSC.

Project Plans budget projection in the upcoming cycle

This part of the CAT addresses the income projection, literature projections, the decrease in Living Clean sales, and an explanation of why Guiding Principles has a conservative income estimate.

The approach about the future of the WSC will be a priority and will get factored into the priority of the plans.

Budget, project plans

Tools needed for planning and collaboration, PR, recovery literature, no project plan for multi media reporting; however, will be replaced with the Future of the WSC as a priority.

2014-2016 cycle adopted projects

Found in version 7 of the Strategic Plan. Status of projects adopted at the previous conference. As written, there were no objections to what is presented.

Decision on the number of board meetings for the 16-18 cycle

The WB had not reached a consensus. We talked about eliminating a meeting and that it wouldn't be in a conference year. Also addressed eliminating a meeting in the past but it was not planned ahead of time. No one has experienced having 1 less meeting that is planned and the meetings for the cycle being spaced out strategically.

The question is: can we be effective with 1 less meeting? How many meetings do we need this cycle to accomplish our work keeping in mind we have other technologies like GoToMeetings. We also have funds that are diminishing and demands rising.

It was the consensus of the World Board to have 7 meetings in the 2016 – 2018 cycle.

After a short break the World Board ended the meeting with a closed sharing session.

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Friday 8 January

Issues to frame for discussion at WSC 2016

The World Board chair opened the meeting with a moment of silence followed with the Serenity prayer.

Issues to frame for discussion at WSC 2016

The World Board spent a portion of their Board meeting discussing FIPT issues.

WSC 2016

WSC Seating recommendations and applications

World Board will be speaking to the conference body and agree on the sustainability and would come from that as a focus. However, with that said, workgroup used the *Guide to World Services* as a point of reference and tool to go forward. What is written in the report explains that very well.

Discussion

This is not a new issue and yet we continue to be at an impasse. This is a really serious issue. We need to be honest and less emotionally charged. We have to articulate what's needed. Have to follow what's in the *Guide to World Services*, yet; we have no other options other than to think of new ideas. Future board members need to understand this issue carries a great weight.

The World Board agreed to report that if it's the decision of WSC to seat regions at WSC 2016, these are our recommendations. Still need to have a dialog regarding sustainably. The report will point out that we did not create the Brazil maps.

Le Nordet Region

Le Nordet is technically a seated region at the conference; however, the region no longer exists. This will be added to the March WB meeting agenda for discussion.

Regional Reports

116 seated and additional regional reports are possible and a few have been submitted for inclusion in the *Conference Report*. Board members encouraged to express the value of regional reports when out with the fellowship. Regions don't have to be seated regions to submit their information.

Decision Making at the WSC

The introduction provides history information so that anyone that reads will understand. The report will be provided with the committed motion and clearly acknowledges two items asked for in proposal BC. This is the next step but not be all. Conference participants will be asked what they want to talk about in evolving this discussion. Will also report we looked at all proposals for input.

The graph captures the new change in process and will happen at the beginning of each proposal. The section Introducing Motions and Proposals really explains the process (graph).

No objection to what's been presented and the board will have a quick turnaround deadline for any additional input.

Motion to clean up all references to the Vision Statement as in the WSC Mission Statement

Simple housekeeping motion, information called out in the CAT cover. No objection.

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Separate section for regional ideas/proposals

At our October meeting, the board discussed trying to begin a process that involved working in partnership with delegates/members when we made a decision to include the So. Florida proposal with the CAT. However, one of the unintended consequences of having a piece in CAT mailing but not a part of the CAT is that only delegates will see. We've already reported South Florida's proposal would go with CAT mailing but not be a part of the CAT. The question before the World Board is if the body wants to continue with decision or add a cover page to the CAT and explain why it's being included as part of the PDF online.

Discussion

This would be a great beginning to have as an opening for discussion with conference participants.

Want to be flexible, help to create framing; explaining this is not a process at all.

Having no new information to offer the World Board agreed to include proposal from S FL with the CAT.

Delegate Sharing

Nothing pointed out; it will go out as previously stated.

Practice of questions and discussion of issues in small groups with staff

After lunch the board broke up into small groups to run through questions and answers about the CAR and CAT after which they will report back to the body.

Reporting back on questions and discussions

The body as a whole found this exercise quite helpful and worthwhile. This is a wonderful exercise that should be added to the agenda before each conference.

Saturday 9 January

KRA: Public Relations

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

All of the WB input considered and entered wherever applicable. The EC reviewed piece yesterday and approved to go out to with the CAT mailing. No objections to accepting EC recommendations.

KRA: Sustainability of NAWS and Corporate Responsibility

Financial Update

2015 Audit (to be provided by email for approval)

As of November 30, we have 135 operating days (4.5 months) in reserves. Target is to have 12 months that would permit us to continue with our global financial responsibilities that need to be carried out.

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Income trend plot for books sales will be created because actual sales are down about 10.5% and Basic Text trend is also not shown. There are many factors to take into consideration like global currency conversion, global economic downturn etc.

There was a brief discussion regarding declining sales of Living Clean and possibly needing to do an analysis. Some factors could be in how groups prioritize what literature is purchased and if that is the case that would put the driver with the groups. Another theory is that most Living Clean meetings provide books therefore reducing the need for members to purchase.

Translations graph illustrates how the demand has doubled since 1993, graph includes inventory items that we produce and keep track of, maintain, etc. along with what we are publishing.

Meeting growth shows the realistic view of meeting growth for everyone not just the US. Request: a future planning discussion topic is what are we doing about retaining our members?

There are some RSO's that are having issue with accountability to RSC and we need to create a message about the Ninth Tradition applicability to service offices; philosophical basis from which to operate under those circumstances. Ideas for future offered:

- Bulletin board – literature survey. Great idea to gather information, encourage collaboration, give groups a relationship to NAWS.
- Find out what and how groups and areas prioritize literature purchase.
- Bundling options. For example box things up like the Group Kit, H&I pack, etc.

Progress of literature evaluation

An additional discount level that would affect customers that purchase \$600K or more per year is being considered. The World Board agreed with pursuing an analysis of the potential impact.

Literature Production and Distribution in Russia

There was a discussion regarding current challenges with literature distribution in Russia.

Approve October 2015 Minutes

No opposition to approving the October 2015 World Board minutes.

Action Item List (affirm recommendations on project ideas)

There are currently no new project ideas

Project ideas need to be reported on in the *Conference Report*. We try to prepare that part of the *Conference Report* long before the March meeting. This is also the time to clean the list up and perhaps we can send you the list so you can rank or rate what you want to carry over.

Framing the next WSC

Staff focus will be the CAT which has to be in production in 2 wks. Will begin to collect WSC session's ideas, the more input the better those sessions will be.

The Host Committee will be used as in the past to coordinate having meeting schedules, airport pickups etc. Will also have the recovery meetings/dance and the store, Delegate Sharing Group will occur the Saturday preceding the WSC and Boyd and Chris will be doing a history workshop. This conference, instead of going to Calamigos Ranch, we are planning to

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use the park next door to the hotel with some variety of food trucks. No objections to the proposed items.

Dates for next CP webinar March 5 at 10 am Pacific

No objection to March 5 at 10a.m. Pacific – Saturday before the board meeting. This information will be included in the eblast going out this week.

Next conference calendar

The next conference calendar will be readjusted in lieu of our meeting planning discussion. Eileen will be asking for everyone's unavailable dates. A tentative calendar will then be drafted; this will be followed by adopting the calendar with new board members.

- Late August or early September is the projected meeting after the WSC 2016.

Nominees Discussion

At the last conference, participants asked us for specific recommendations in order to support the needs of the board in future development issues.

The question before the board is: how can we best share with conference participants our thoughts about nominees, the work that goes into our process, including why certain skills essential.

No one opposed to drafting something based on input that explains the how, why and what we need. We'll also decide in March if we'll want to approach topic on the conference floor.

PR Vietnam Trip Report

In the foreseeable future, we do not see NA meetings developing in the community like we do because Vietnam has local law enforcement that work in each of the individual communities by virtue of geographic location. This is consistent with societies that are based upon Communism.

Went to a house in Hanoi that was a support group for "clean addicts" and they have 12 principles that they use like the steps. Some of them were on methadone, etc. and some drug free but what we didn't ask if "clean" included alcohol. What was clear was that the peer component with the use of our principles will work there. This trip just highlighted the reality that when we are talking about Asia we'll need a completely different strategy for these communities.

Meeting adjourned

APPROVED

MARCH 12, 2016