

**Families Anonymous  
Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Directors  
June 15, 2019**

**INTRODUCTION**

**1. Call to Order:** 2:01 EDT, by Barbara, Chair

**2. Roll Call:** by Maria on behalf of Christy, Secretary

<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>WSB Role</u></b>	<b><u>Attendance</u></b>	<b><u>Monthly Report</u></b>
Barbara S	Chair	P	W
Maria S	Vice Chair	P	W
John S	Treasurer	P	E
Christy R	Secretary	P	E
Alan B	BMAL	P	W
Ann P	BMAL	P	W
Bev B	BMAL	P	W
Bob S	BMAL	P	W
Donna D	BMAL	P	W
George R	BMAL	P	W
Hank H	BMAL	P	W
Helen L	BMAL	P	L
Jeff S	BMAL	P	E
Marc B	BMAL	E	L
Marcia C	BMAL	P	E
Odalys A	BMAL	P	N
Vince M	BMAL	LOA	E

Attendance Key: P=Present, A=Absent, E=Excused, LOA=Leave of Absence

Monthly Report Key: W= Submitted by deadline, L=Submitted after deadline, N=No report submitted, E=Excused for extenuating circumstances

Barbara welcomed Marcia and Jeff (our new Board Members at Large), and our new Officers: John (Treasurer) and Christy (Recording Secretary).

**3. Acceptance of Published Agenda:**

- Hank moved to accept the Agenda, Alan seconded, voted on and accepted.

#### 4. Tradition One:

- Read by Maria: *“Our common welfare should come first; personal progress for the greatest number depends on unity.”*

#### 5. Approval of May 2019 WSB Minutes:

- Bob moved to accept, George seconded, voted on and approved. Maria and Christy to distribute.

#### 6. Chair's Report:

- There were no comments or questions concerning the Chair's Report.

#### 7. Treasurer's Report:

- David will debrief John on the financial reports to be provided monthly.
- There were no other comments or questions.

### **STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### **Committee**

SC-1 Public Information  
SC-2 WSO  
SC-3 Literature  
SC-4 Twelve Step Rag Newsletter  
SC-5 Bylaws, Parliamentary  
SC-6 International Groups  
SC-7 Budget Committee  
SC-8 Sponsorship  
SC-9 Group Outreach  
SC-10 Financial Oversight  
SC-11 Technology

#### **Chair**

Alan B  
Maria S  
Ann P  
Bob S  
George R  
Vince M  
John S  
Helen L  
Donna D  
George R  
Hank H

- **SC-1 Public Information:**

- At the convention, Alan mentioned that he is putting together a roster of individuals interested in doing radio interviews. Those interested can contact him either by phone, or by email ([PI@familiesanonymous.org](mailto:PI@familiesanonymous.org)); he has already

received some responses. Alan also provided the convention attendees a form for posting at supermarkets.

- Barbara asked Alan to set up a PI Committee meeting with Donna and George via GoTo Meeting.
- Jeff volunteered to join the PI Committee; he works in media and does a lot of public speaking. He is especially interested in growing FA and raising awareness.
- The Board had a discussion around anonymity.
  - Donna read from Tradition 12 which states that last names should not be used. Tradition 12 also guides us to humility. Ann will send the relevant text from the Twelve Traditions in Action (Traditions 11 and 12) to everyone. The Board Members agreed to read this and come prepared for discussion at our next meeting.
- John added that when we speak as part of PI, we need to keep it within our own personal experience and not as a spokesperson for FA (i.e., follow the same principles as for our group meetings).
- **SC-2 WSO:** Maria indicated she could continue to serve as Chair of this Committee.
- **SC-4 Twelve Step Rag Newsletter:**
  - Bob reported that Elizabeth is investigating the type of publishing software she would like to use, and the cost.
  - Shlomo H has offered use of his photos without charge.
    - The photos do not include people; only nature.
    - Bob indicated that we do not need an assignment of rights; only permission to use. Bob will prepare a form for obtaining permission.
    - Bob will check with Shlomo to see if he wants to receive credit; if so he will revisit this with the Board.
    - Bob will follow up with Shlomo to see if he is interested in writing a short piece for the Rag on how photography has contributed to his sense of serenity.
- **SC-6 International Groups:** Vince will be on a two month leave of absence. Barbara will follow up with Helen to see if she would be willing to take the lead for those two months.
- **SC-7 Budget Committee:** John mentioned that he looked at the budget proposed by George for the new website and he will add it to the budget for this year upon approval by the Board.
- **SC-9 Group Outreach:**
  - Donna will be meeting with two women tonight from the Meeting Without Walls. They will discuss the use of GoToMeeting software. She will provide them with Hank's contact information if they want to move forward. George

asked Hank to check the terms of our subscription to make sure that the license extends to our groups.

- Marcia agreed to join this Committee.
- **SC-10 Financial Oversight:** George reported that Dennis will be working on the 4QFY2019 and the annual FY2019 reports; the latter is needed for next year's ABM.
- **SC-11 Technology:**
  - Hank reported that the [FAconvention.com](http://FAconvention.com) site has been made a pending site; it has a link to go back to the FA site. He also removed the other convention-related info from the FA website.
  - Hank is working on getting the new Board Members their FA email account.
  - Hank has forwarded the link to the ABM recording to Maria.

## **AD-HOC COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Committee**

### **Chair**

AH-2 Convention Liaison	Barbara S
AH-3 Intergroup Support & Development	Marc B
AH-4 Document Review	Ann P
AH-5 Long Range Planning	Marc B
AH-6 Revenue Growth Task Force	Bob S

- **AH-2 Convention Liaison:**
  - Barbara reported that two Board members are following up with two groups to see if they would consider joining up to host next year's convention.
  - Atlanta put on a wonderful convention. Barbara asked Jeff to send the CPC our sincerest thanks.
- **AH-6 Revenue Growth Task Force:**
  - Bob reported that the task force was working on a policy on how to support your fellowship, but decided to make a trifold instead. A draft has been completed with the help of Ann and George. It will be provided to the Board for approval at next month's Board meeting. Its release will be publicized in the Rag.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

### **1. Website and Tiger Team.**

- George has been working with the vendor, MaxPotential, located in Richmond, VA. He sent to the Board a Statement of Work and a Spread Sheet of estimated hours to achieve a) completion of the new web site to the point where we can “go live” with the new site, and b) training of internal FA staff (Nicole) and WSB volunteers in order to put FA in a position of completing more routine tasks in house as well as performing normal site maintenance after “go live”. The duration of the project is estimated to be ~4 weeks, with a cost of \$3,080.
- The training is projected to have two 90 minute sessions on GoToMeeting, with no limit on the number of people attending. It includes training materials and will be recorded.
- The firm’s main business is training people via an apprentice program. This is how they are able to charge us only \$40 per hour (rather than the industry average rate of \$110 to \$130 per hour). The apprentices work on projects under the supervision of experienced web designers.
- For the budget, George proposed doubling the estimate to \$6,160 in the event there are any overruns (i.e., in case we haven’t completely defined all the requirements or other work needs to be done).
- **A motion was made by George to approve the expenditure of \$6,160 for work on the new website, including training. The motion was seconded by Alan, voted on and approved.**
- John will speak with David and add this expenditure to the 2020 budget.
- George indicated that we will need to move the development environment to MaxPotential’s servers. Hank will assist George with this.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

### **1. Request from Greece**

- Maria and Nicole had received an email from the South Greece Intergroup. A graduate student has requested permission to interview members of that IG, for her graduate thesis entitled “The Contribution of the Family in the Rehabilitation Process of Young Addicts”. The Board’s discussion included the following points:
  - The individuals participating in the interview are responding based on their own experience in FA and do not represent FA.
  - Some of the questions in the interview form appear to have predetermined conclusions and do not seem to be in keeping with FA principles. The concern is that it could lead to erroneous conclusions. Helen and the South Greece IG Chair also had similar concerns about the questions. Prior to conducting the interviews, it may be helpful for the interviewer to receive some of our literature such as the Twelve Steps, the FA Fact Sheet, and Helping.

- This is an opportunity to get the word out about FA and better educate people about what we do.
- The graduate student agreed to provide her final report to the participants if they wish to receive it.
  - It would be an opportunity to check that there isn't any obvious violation of FA principles or traditions, and give the message that we are good stewards of FA. However, we may not have the ability or right to make any revisions.
  - The interviewees could also check that they weren't misquoted.
- After discussion, the Board agreed to let Helen and the South Greece IG handle this going forward. The Board is confident in their ability to do so. Ann will resend to Helen the notes she provided to the Board. Helen will share them with the interviewer.

## **2. Brain Storming Ideas from Convention**

- Because of time constraints, this item was tabled. Barbara asked the Board to review the brain storming ideas and give her any feedback. If needed, these will be discussed at next month's meeting.

**TABLED ITEMS:** None

## **CLOSING**

**1. Announcements and Other Items:** None

## **2. Adjournment**

- Motion to adjourn was made by Donna seconded by Bob, voted on and passed (3:20 pm EDT).

**3. Closed with the Serenity Prayer**