

**Families Anonymous
Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Directors
February 15, 2020**

INTRODUCTION

1. Call to Order: 2:02 EST, by Barbara S, Chair

2. Roll Call: by Christy, Secretary

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

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

3. Acceptance of Published Agenda:

- David moved to accept the revised Agenda, Donna seconded, voted on and accepted.

4. Tradition One:

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

5. Approval of WSB October Minutes:

- Bob moved to approve the October minutes, Alan seconded, voted on and approved.

6. Chair's Report:

- Barbara asked if there was any feedback on her proposed article for the Twelve Step Rag concerning anonymity. Bob indicated he had sent her some comments a little while ago; Barbara will look at those and work with Bob on finalizing it.
 - Donna suggested that in the last paragraph Barbara indicate that this is from the WSB.
 - Bob suggested that we narrowly circumscribe the instances in which it can be waived.
- There were no other comments or questions concerning the Chair’s Report.

7. Treasurer's Report:

- Cindy provided the financial reports as part of her monthly report.
- Barbara asked about the end of year financials for the prior year which are to be voted on at the ABM. David will work with Cindy and provide them.
- Marcia asked about the \$17K negative net income. Cindy and David explained that it is primarily a result of the following:
 - Planned expenditures due to the work on the website (\$10K to date) in line with what was budgeted.
 - Significantly lower revenue (donations and literature sales) compared to what was budgeted.
- There were no other comments or questions.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committee

SC-1 Public Information

SC-2 WSO

Chair

Alan B

Maria S

SC-3 Literature	Ann P
SC-4 Twelve Step Rag Newsletter	Robert S
SC-5 Bylaws, Parliamentary	George R
SC-6 International Groups	Vince M
SC-7 Budget Committee	Cindy C
SC-8 Sponsorship	Helen L
SC-9 Group Outreach	Donna D
SC-10 Financial Oversight	George R
SC-11 Technology	George R

- **SC-1 Public Information**

- Alan reported that he has been doing a lot of research on what PR firms are using (i.e., websites, blogs, radio outlets etc). He'll report back once he has a more concrete lead.

- **SC-4 Twelve Step Rag**

- Bob indicated that he received the names of 2 individuals who volunteered to help; he forwarded those names to Elizabeth.
- Bob prepared an editor's note explaining the change in name to the Serenity Messenger. The Board agreed it should appear in the same issue when the name is changed, and be the first featured article.
- George asked about the subheading. Bob said that the wording was agreed upon; the vote was not to use the term "official".
- Bob asked Elizabeth about the preferred design software, but has not heard back. George indicated that Nicole is in need of a slightly more powerful graphic program for literature pictures. If we go with Adobe Illustrator, Nicole could be a second user at no extra cost. Bob will follow up with Nicole to determine if she has a software preference, and share that preference with Elizabeth. Nicole could use Angel's debit card; Nicole should be listed as the primary user.

AD-HOC COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committee

Chair

AH-1 Convention Liaison	Barbara S
AH-2 Intergroup Support & Development	Marc B
AH-3 Document Review	Ann P
AH-4 Long Range Planning	Marc B
AH-5 Revenue Growth Task Force	Robert S

- There was no additional information provided about the Ad-Hoc Committees.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: none

NEW BUSINESS:

1. MOTION T-1

- **Motion:** Move that FA remove PayPal as a payment method for orders initiated via the website.
- **Rationale:** PayPal has been problematic since it was included in the new website as a payment method for online orders. It has continuously overcharged users despite attempts by the Tech Committee and Maxx Potential to correct the errors. It provides no substantive advantage over BluePay, the alternative payment method. PayPal will remain as an option on the Donations page of the site.
- **Implementation:** If approved, the Tech committee will collaborate with Maxx Potential to remove PayPal as a payment method for online orders.
- **Cost:** There is no incremental cost associated with this motion.
- The following points were made during discussion:
 - George doesn't believe that BluePay will accept non-US credit or debit cards. David indicated that money received from international groups has been through a wire transfer to the bank. This means that international orders would have to go through the WSO instead of the website.
 - Marc recommended that whatever method we use, we need to figure out if there will be a cross-border fee or a transactional fee.
 - David said that the bank transfer fee is much smaller than the e-store fees; international orders are typically large (eg, >\$500).
 - International orders are a small percentage of our literature orders.
 - Marc indicated that most banks subscribe to Zelle; this might be an alternative payment method to consider.
 - George will follow up with Angel to see how many international orders come in on a yearly basis. If infrequent, and if handling them by wire transfer has not been an issue, we may not need to do anything else.
- **Motion made by George, seconded by David, voted on and approved.**

2. 2020 Annual Business Meeting (ABM)

- If we have a convention this year, it will not be in time for the ABM (i.e., May or June). Louisville is considering hosting the convention on October 2. However, Barbara feels that it is unlikely to happen.
- We will have to have a virtual ABM this year.

- George spoke to GoToMeeting yesterday. They said we can upgrade our service from a 25-attendee maximum to 125 attendees. This would occur in the month we hold the ABM. They would refund the balance of the annual balance to us, and then do a monthly rental of the 125-attendee version until it is no longer needed. We would then go back to the 25-attendee service license.
- Barbara suggested we put together a group of people to work out the logistics of holding the virtual ABM, including the mechanism for voting. George, Donna, Maria, David, and Cindy volunteered to help. We will also need to determine a date for the ABM.
- Donna suggested we work this out before sending out the mailing, so that we can provide some information / guidance.
- Barbara reminded the Board that next year is not only the 20th anniversary of the e-meeting, but also the 50th anniversary of FA. We should not miss the opportunity for a convention in 2021. Barbara will follow up with Tom of the e-meeting.

TABLED ITEMS: None

CLOSING

1. Announcements and Other Items: None

2. Adjournment

- Motion to adjourn was made by Alan, seconded by Bob, voted on and passed (3:12 pm EST).

3. Closed with the Serenity Prayer