

Families Anonymous
Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Directors
January 18, 2020

INTRODUCTION

1. Call to Order: 2:00 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	E
Christy R	Secretary	P	W
Alan B	BMAL	P	L
Ann P	BMAL	P	W
Bev B	BMAL	A	N
Bob S	BMAL	P	W
Donna D	BMAL	P	W
George R	BMAL	P	W
Hank H	BMAL	A	N
Helen L	BMAL	P	L
Jeff S	BMAL	P	E
Marc B	BMAL	P	W
Marcia C	BMAL	P	W
Odalys A	BMAL	P	W
Vince M	BMAL	P	W

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:

- Vince moved to accept the revised Agenda, Helen seconded, voted on and accepted.

4. Tradition One:

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

5. Approval of WSB September Minutes:

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

6. Chair's Report:

- Barbara welcomed Cindy, our new Treasurer.
- There were no comments or questions concerning the Chair's Report.

7. Treasurer's Report:

- Cindy provided the financial reports as part of her monthly report.
- There were no 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
Robert S
George R
Vince M
Cindy C
Helen L
Donna D
George R
Hank H

- There was no additional information provided about the Committees.

AD-HOC COMMITTEE REPORTS

<u>Committee</u>	<u>Chair</u>
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:

1. Website Update

- Barbara asked the Board to look at the new website.
- Ann asked that we prioritize getting new photos of our literature. Marc suggested that we scan them instead. George reported that Nicole has investigated this. She now knows the optimal pixel size for our website e-store. She has started working on this. George can provide an update to Ann next week.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. MOTION WSOF-10 Website Flyer

- **Motion:** Move that FA no longer maintain and include with every shipment a copy of document WSOF-10, Website Flyer.
- **Rationale:** WSOF-10 is out of date and will require a significant update to reflect the new website. Additionally, given the improved usability of the new website, there is no value in continuing this practice.
- **Implementation:** If approved, the WSO committee will direct Angel to cease including WSOF-10 in every literature shipment.
- **Cost:** There is no incremental cost associated with this motion. In fact, the cost of printing / maintaining this document will be eliminated.
- The following points were made during discussion:
 - Vince had suggested that we continue to have a website flyer, but make it a much less formal and shorter document so that it would be easier to maintain. If the literature order is not placed via the website, then we would include it in the order. George suggested we get Angel's opinion on the feasibility of this because she would need to be aware of the origin of the order.

- Donna shared that the original purpose for the form was to inform people about our new website, approximately 8 years ago. Now that websites are more commonplace, she feels it is no longer needed. Marcia and Maria agreed with this.
- Alan suggested changing the Suggested Meeting Format to mention the website at the beginning of each meeting. Ann said we could do this if everyone agrees, but didn't think it would be necessary since many of our literature pieces include familiesanonymous.org. Alan thought it would be helpful for new people. Donna's experience is that many new people hear about us through the website already.
- **Motion made by George, seconded by Marc, voted on and approved.**
- Maria will notify Angel of this decision.

2. **MOTION Adding Website Information to the Suggested Meeting Format**

- In light of Alan's recommendation (see above discussion) the following motion was made.
- **Motion:** To add information about the website to the suggested meeting format.
- **Motion made by Donna, seconded by Bob, voted on and not approved.**
- Barbara suggested we send out an email blast informing the fellowship about the new website. George said this was on his list of things to do; Barbara agreed to help him with Nicole's assistance.

3. **Italy and Tradition 11**

- Ann provided background on this. She read a letter from Francesca (who is now serving as FA Italy's website manager). Francesca had shared details about a letter that was sent to their website which Francesca had forwarded to the police. The decision to call the police was made in conjunction with their National Council. It concerned satanism; the person acknowledging the desire to do harm to themselves and others, and seeking help. Another FA member in Italy objected to Francesca breaking her anonymity in reporting this. Francesca reached out to Ann for clarification on whether the tradition was violated. Both Barbara and Ann responded to Francesca immediately, indicating that reporting the letter and breaking her anonymity was completely justified. It was a legal issue; she could otherwise be considered aiding and abetting a criminal act.
- Barbara asked if we should provide additional clarification, so that others would know it is justified to break anonymity in similar circumstances.
- After discussion, the following was agreed upon:
 - Francesca had acted appropriately; Barbara and Ann's response to her was also appropriate.

- We do not need to change the wording of Tradition 11. We already have material (e.g., *Twelve Traditions in Action*) that provides clarification regarding anonymity.
- Barbara and Ann will write back to Francesca to let her know that this was discussed by the WSB and that we do not feel she violated any tradition.

4. January Mailing

- Barbara has been delaying the January mailing that goes to the Group Secretaries, because it generally includes information on the convention. She has been discussing with the Louisville Group whether they would consider hosting the convention this year, rather than 2021. Barbara asked that we follow up with our groups to see if there is any interest in hosting, in case plans with Louisville fall through.
- George doesn't believe there is anything in the bylaws concerning the mailing. The only requirement is that ballots have to be mailed out at least 30 days before the Annual Business Meeting (ABM). The bylaws require the ABM to be held in May or June.
- Donna indicated that we also postponed the delisting of groups because the website was not up and running. Only ~20 groups have not yet re-registered. She and Nicole will follow up, so Barbara doesn't send materials to groups that no longer exist.

TABLED ITEMS:

1. MOTION Credentials List Policy (January 2020)

- **Motion:** Approval of PPG-20 "*Policy for Development and Maintenance of a Credentials List*".
- **Rationale:** Our IT infrastructure is critical for the day-to-day functioning of the WSB, the WSO and the WSO committees. The absence of an accurate list of systems and administrative passwords which is centrally managed and controlled (and available to a designated subset of the WSB) places the fellowship at risk of significant business interruption and delays. To mitigate this risk, the WSB approved a motion at its October Meeting to create a policy for the development and maintenance of a credentials list.
- **Feasibility:** The WSB has had an opportunity to review and comment on the draft policy. The final draft (version 4) was sent to the WSB via email on November 23; no additional changes were suggested.
- **Implementation:** Upon approval of this motion by the WSB:

- The Technology Committee will identify and inventory all FA owned / licensed / used applications and prepare / maintain the Credentials List per policy.
- Once approved, the Golden Master will be provided to the DMC for archiving and posting on our website.
- **Cost:** There is no incremental cost associated with the above motion.
- **Motion made by Maria, seconded by George, voted on and approved.**

CLOSING

1. Announcements and Other Items:

- George asked if we ever formally approved a new name for the Rag. The Board's recollection is that we had agreed on the name, but had tabled discussion of the rollout. Christy will confirm this.
 - We will need to change the By Laws to reflect the change in the name (it currently refers to the 12-Step Rag as the title). George plans to use a more generic term when he amends the By Laws.
 - Bob will work on the rollout of the new name, Serenity Messenger.
- Bob asked for the Board's help in getting content for the Serenity Messenger. He also asked that they go to their groups to ask for volunteers to serve as co-editor to help Elizabeth. Bob will prepare an email blast regarding this.
- Alan had mentioned in his board report that he found several sites aimed at matching up talk shows and hosts with prospective guests. Some of these also feature podcasts which have fairly large followings. The challenge is that many of these sites have a nominal charge (\$5) to be listed, or are done on a subscription basis. He is willing to pay for these out of his own pocket. He asked the Board's approval to move forward with this. The Board agreed that Alan can move forward with this.
- Nicole is helping Angel to upgrade her computer to Windows 10. There will be ~\$120 charge. The Board supports this.
- Maria had sent an email to the Tech Committee to remind them that once a year we had agreed to search the internet for "other FAs". Marc agreed to do this and will report back to the Board on his findings.

2. Adjournment

- Motion to adjourn was made by Donna, seconded by Vince, voted on and passed (3:26 pm EST).

3. Closed with the Serenity Prayer