

Families Anonymous
Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Directors
May 15, 2021

INTRODUCTION

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

2. Roll Call: by Maria

| Name | WSB Role | Attendance | Monthly Report |
|-------------|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| Barbara S | Chair | P | W |
| Maria S | Vice Chair | P | W |
| Cindy C | Treasurer | P | W |
| TBD | Secretary | NA | NA |
| Alan B | BMAL | LOA | LOA |
| Ann P | BMAL | P | W |
| Bob S | BMAL | P | W |
| Chris Y | BMAL | P | W |
| David M | BMAL | P | W |
| George R | BMAL | P | W |
| Helen L | BMAL | P | L |
| Jeff S | BMAL | P | W |
| Marc B | BMAL | LOA | LOA |
| Marcia C | BMAL | P | W |
| Mike B | BMAL | P | L |
| Odalys A | BMAL | LOA | LOA |
| Sara L | BMAL | P | 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, LOA = Leave of Absence

3. Acceptance of Published Agenda:

- David moved to accept the Agenda, Ann 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 April 2021 WSB Minutes:

- Chris moved to accept the April WSB Minutes, David seconded, voted on and approved. Maria to distribute.

6. Chair's Report:

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

7. Treasurer's Report:

- Cindy provided the April monthly, and the year-end financial reports, as part of her monthly report.
- There were only 3 months where we earned a profit this past year; April was one of them. There was a \$20K estate donation in August. Members also made generous year-end donations in December.
- Literature sales went over budget by \$100 this month. It seems this was due to the 12 Step workshops held by Donna D.
 - Cindy suggested that if we have other literature that lends itself to workshops, we should consider doing more of them. Ann agreed that other literature pieces could serve as a basis for individual workshops. Perhaps Donna would agree to lead an ad hoc committee to spearhead this; Barbara will follow up with her.
- There was a \$13,400 net loss for the year. This is better than we thought it would be.
- The \$10K government loan is not considered revenue until it is officially forgiven. We'll see a revenue benefit from it next year.
- We now have 4 years before our cash on hand runs out, rather than 3.5 years. It's still urgent that we get more people involved with the fellowship.
- Barbara suggested that a virtual convention would also bring in revenue.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committee

SC-1 Public Information
 SC-2 WSO
 SC-3 Literature

Chair

Jeff S
 Maria S
 Ann P

| | |
|------------------------------------|----------|
| SC-4 Serenity Messenger Newsletter | Robert S |
| SC-5 Bylaws, Parliamentary | George R |
| SC-6 International Groups | Helen L |
| SC-7 Budget Committee | Cindy C |
| SC-8 Sponsorship | Helen L |
| SC-9 Group Outreach | Marcia C |
| SC-10 Financial Oversight | David M |
| SC-11 Technology | George R |

- **SC-1 Public Information:**

- **Facebook Page**

- Jeff has been working on the Facebook page “Families Anonymous Official”; it was launched ~4 weeks ago.
- Jeff reported that the number of people going to our Facebook page has gone up. Over 1,800 people have seen the page; there have been 10 posts.
- Jeff reported that the one post that he also shared on his personal Facebook page had far more reaches and engagements. Because of this, Jeff suggested that if you like something on the FA page, share it on your personal page (if you feel comfortable doing it); it will increase FA’s visibility.
- Barbara wanted to add some posts. If she is unable to do so, she should inform Jeff.
- Jeff will try to get on a more regular posting schedule.
- There was no setting to close commentary. Jeff picked the most restrictive one. Of the 10 posts, so far there has been only one comment. As an administrator, he can delete comments. He will watch the page closely.
- The FA page ([facebook.com](https://facebook.com/FamiliesAnonymousOfficial)) is a public business page. If we made it a private group page, no one would be able to see it.

- **SC-11 Technology:**

- Chris researched how to get FA’s website higher up on search engine results. He found a link for a playbook on how to do it. He suggested that we try to do it ourselves first, before we use a commercial provider. Chris will send the link to everyone. Chris will work with George, Bob and Ann on this.
- There is a cost associated with Nicole’s time, if she were to work on this.
- Bob may be able to ask for tips from a tech person he used to work with.
- Sara serves as a project manager for technology people. Although she is not a technology person herself, she would be willing to help.

- There were no other updates from the Committee Chairs.

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 | Cindy C |
| AH-6 Virtual Meeting Format | Maria S |
| • Other than the information provided in the monthly Board Reports, there were no additional updates from the Ad-Hoc Committee Chairs. | |

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. JUNE 12 Annual Business Meeting (ABM):

- The ABM is coming up on June 12. Barbara would like all Board members to attend. If a Board member cannot be there, they should let Barbara know. Barbara will resend out the link.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. MOTION (TECH-01):

- **Motion:** Move that the WSB approve payment of the annual web site hosting fee to Maxx Potential per invoice SOW 5.
- **Rationale:** This is an annual hosting fee.
- **Implementation:** On approval, the chair will approve and the treasurer will pay invoice SOW 5.
- **Cost:** The cost is \$250. This is less than the cost of what IPower was charging us (i.e., \$700).

Motion made by George, seconded by Ann, voted on and approved.

2. MOTION (TECH-02):

- **Motion:** Move that the WSB approve the contract with Maxx Potential for support services related to the ELEX shipping plug-in as described in SOW 6.
- **Rationale:** Maxx Potential will resolve the shipping module issues causing erroneous shipping costs within the FA eStore.

- **Implementation:** On approval, the chair will approve SOW 6 and the technology committee will work with Maxx Potential to implement the required modifications to the website.
- **Cost:** \$120
- **Motion made by George, seconded by Ann, voted on and approved.**

3. MOTION (TECH-03):

- **Motion:** Move that the WSB approve the contract with Maxx Potential for support services related to the ELEX shipping plug-in as described in SOW 7.
- **Rationale:** Maxx Potential will resolve the issue preventing use of the zip code based meeting locator on the FA website.
- **Implementation:** On approval, the chair will approve SOW 7 and the technology committee will work with Maxx Potential to implement the required modifications to the website.
- **Cost:** \$80
- The following discussion was held:
 - George mentioned that we could hold off doing this, since a pdf of the meeting directory is posted on line. However, the cost is much less than other service providers would charge us. David and Barbara supported doing it now since the cost is low.
 - Ann asked if we can protect against spam mail since the email addresses are on the meeting directory. George indicated it would not help to remove the email addresses; they appear on the virtual meeting list.
 - Ann would like to keep the pdf of the meeting list on the website, even after the zip-code based meeting locator is fixed. Marcia supported keeping both as well. George indicated he could add a button on the meeting page to accommodate this.
 - George will ask Maxx Potential to provide instructions (if straight forward) in case the meeting locator malfunctions again.
- **Motion made by George, seconded by Ann, voted on and approved.**

4. MOTION (Parliamentarian-01)

- **Motion:** The Board is considering revising the proposed amendment to the Articles of Incorporation and the By-Laws based on questions / objections arising from the motions on the ballot. To ensure that the fellowship has adequate time to consider and vote on this proposed change, the Board would like to withdraw Motion P-01 from consideration. If warranted, we will submit a revised motion for the fellowship's consideration before next year's Annual Business Meeting. For the same reason, the Board is withdrawing the related Motion P-02, concerning the By- Laws.

- Bob explained why we were looking to revise the language in the Articles of Incorporation.
- The Board agreed to discuss this during the upcoming year. Bob will provide the Board with:
 - The original language in the Articles of Incorporation
 - His suggested wording which appeared on the ballots
 - Ann's suggested wording along with her concerns
 - The wording proposed by the Summit, NJ group, along with their concerns.
- Jeff, David and George support the more expansive language that includes other types of addictions. We should not turn those family members away. If they don't find the FA meetings helpful, they will leave.
- The Board also agreed to drop the term "Affiliate Groups" and use "Member Groups" instead.
- **Motion made by Bob, seconded by George, voted on and approved.**

TABLED ITEMS: None

CLOSING

1. Announcements and Other Items:

- None.

2. Adjournment

- Motion to adjourn was made by Marcia, seconded by Bob, voted on and passed (3:15 pm EDT).

3. Closed with the Serenity Prayer