



## **WSC 2016 Approved Minutes**

First Things First – the 33rd World Service Conference.....	2
Navigating the WSC: Orientation .....	2
The Needs of a Global Fellowship .....	4
WSC 2016 Process for Business Sessions.....	4
Delegates Sharing.....	6
Old Business Discussion and Proposal Decisions .....	7
Formal Old Business .....	24
HRP Report.....	34
Future of the WSC 1.....	36
<i>FIPT</i> & Literature Discussion.....	39
NAWS Report.....	42
Future of the WSC 2: Putting Meat on the Bones .....	47
Fellowship Development and Public Relations.....	48
Elections and Budget Report.....	53
<i>FIPT</i> & Literature Breakout Discussion .....	56
Future of the WSC 3: How do we get there from here?.....	56
New Business Discussion and Proposal Decisions.....	56
Formal New Business .....	59
New Business Discussion and Proposal Decisions (continued).....	60
Moving Forward with a Common Vision 2016-2018.....	81
Straw Polls of New Business Proposals.....	87
Appendix A: Statistics on Participants Attending WSC 2016.....	90
Appendix B: Roll Calls.....	91
Appendix C: Decision-Making Terminology.....	96
Appendix D: FIPT Breakout Session Results .....	97
Appendix E: Future of the WSC 2 Breakout Session Results .....	100
Appendix F: Future of the WSC 3 Breakout Session Results.....	104
Appendix G: CAR Survey Results.....	111
Appendix H: Revised Mind Maps .....	115
Appendix I: Regional Map .....	117

# Sunday 24 April 2016

## FIRST THINGS FIRST – THE 33RD WORLD SERVICE CONFERENCE

9:03 am–10:15 am

*Led by Franney J (WB Chair)*

Franney began by welcoming participants to the 2016 World Service Conference for Narcotics Anonymous. After a moment of silence, followed by the Serenity Prayer, Franney reminded participants about time constraints and the importance of preparation since each session builds on the previous one. A video of WSC 2014 highlights was shown followed by the readings.

Franney discussed the origins of this year’s theme—“Honesty, Trust, and Goodwill”—taken from A Vision for NA World Services and previewed some of the highlights of the week ahead. World Board members will be available throughout the WSC to discuss your needs, hear your ideas, and answer your questions, Franney said.

The Human Resource Panel members, WSC Cofacilitators, translators, and World Board members were introduced. The newest seated region, the Quisqueyana Region was welcomed and the RD, Jose Luis A, shared his personal story and history of the region.

A “Conference countdown” served to welcome first-time participants and highlight those with experience. Franney shared about World Board member Bob Gray’s passing and everyone was asked to take an extra moment of silence. The session was closed with the Serenity Prayer in 26 languages.

- Arabic
- Afrikaans
- Danish
- Farsi
- Filipino
- Finnish
- French
- Gaelic
- German
- Greek
- Hebrew
- Italian
- Japanese
- Lithuanian
- Manipuri
- Maori
- Nepali
- Norwegian
- Polish
- Portuguese
- Punjabi
- Russian
- Swedish
- Spanish
- Hawaiian
- English

## NAVIGATING THE WSC: ORIENTATION

10:50 am–12:17 pm

*Led by Arne H-G (WB Vice-chair), Dickie D and Laura B (WSC Cofacilitators)*

Arne H-G (WB Vice-chair) opened the session with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer. He reminded the assembly to be respectful and not post things online without permission. A participant posted a recording of the WB forum online, Arne explained, and someone had already received a threat as a result. He went on to say that this session will not be a day-by-day, session-by-session description, but instead an overview of the week.

### **Resources**

Arne reviewed the material in participants’ notebooks and some of the resources on site including the staff table, onsite office, and the WSC puzzle (like the idea tree at previous WSCs). We will be giving out daily agendas, Arne explained, but not daily evaluations. We’ll have a more general set of evaluation questions on the closing day of the WSC.

## **Brief overview of the week**

There is a lot to cover in this week's ambitious schedule, Arne explained. The World Board has deliberately not framed some of the work in order to take a more collaborative approach in breakout sessions on important issues that build on each other. The three main breakout

Arne explained that many people traveled to the Conference by plane; this session is like a pre-flight announcement. From serenity to enlightenment, ETA of 30April. Please make sure your baggage is safely stowed. In the event of turbulence, the feelings light will come on; do not panic—sponsors will drop down from the overhead compartments automatically. If you're traveling with a newcomer, please work the Steps yourself before helping them to apply theirs. In the case of an emergency landing in controversy, please use the indicated exits.

topics this week are the Future of the WSC, the *FIPT*, and the survey and Strategic Plan. We will look at the literature survey and Issue Discussion Topics as well. Arne closed his remarks by reminding participants of tonight's schedule and deadlines, urging them to prepare well each day, and touching on the process for reporting expenses.

### **Electronic polling overview**

Laura and Dickie (WSC Cofacilitators) then reviewed the new electronic polling processes. Laura explained that electronic

polling and voting is meant to take the place of voice voting and standing counts. If the body wishes to have a roll call vote, they would need to make that decision. We will also use the remotes for attendance. If you come in late, please check in with staff.

Laura went over the mechanics of the remotes and the basics of polling and voting, and then the body voted on a sample proposal: Should Franney dye her hair blue to match the color of the Basic Text? Some of the remotes were not working, and were replaced. The results of the poll were 94 yes, 14 no, 5 abstain, and 12 present, not voting. Strong support. Laura explained that during an actual vote, the Cofacilitators will ask if anyone needs more time and then will close the poll. Results of each vote will be shown on screen.

## **Q&A**

There were several questions about how the remotes operate and whether participants can see how they voted. It was explained that the LCD screen displays the button that was pushed, but only for a couple of seconds. The system does not have the ability to show real-time results as they are compiling, but the Cofacilitators can tell who has not voted and can call out those participants if that is helpful. If a remote is not working, it can be swapped with an extra remote.

Laura and Arne reminded the body that after the WSC is over they will receive a summary of decisions that will show the vote counts for each item. While the electronic system has the ability to retrieve a record of how each participant voted, our intention is to use it as a more accurate tool to replace voice or standing votes, not to retain or publish more detailed data. If the body wants a roll call vote on an item, the Conference can make that decision.

There was some discussion about trusting the process, including the question of whether the remotes can be hacked. Laura explained that each remote has a unique signal, and Laura and Dickie reminded participants that the body can make whatever choices it is comfortable with including a roll call vote or a return to the way we used to do voting. Arne let participants know that there would be a test later to help build confidence in the system. Arnie, Laura, and Dickie also clarified several things including the difference between abstention and present not voting (the former is part of the vote count, and the latter is not); the cost of lunch tickets (\$25); and whether Franney will really dye her hair blue ("a conscience is a conscience," said Arne). Arne closed the session at 12:17 pm.

## THE NEEDS OF A GLOBAL FELLOWSHIP

2:00 pm–3:30 pm

*Breakout Session*

The Needs of a Global Fellowship was the first of several breakouts scheduled for the Conference week. For each of the breakout sessions, participants were assigned to five conference rooms in which they participated in whole-group and small-group discussions.

After some opening remarks from the Board members facilitating each breakout room, small groups had a discussion focused on the mind map created at the last WSC. Each small group discussed their ideas for additions or changes to the mind map. As a group, they identified their top three priorities and then shared these with the room. Facilitators compiled all of these ideas into one list containing all of each room's best thinking. Finally, each participant was asked to identify up to three ideas that they saw as the most important points to add to or change the needs of NA mind map. A few ideas seemed to gain traction in each room. These were added to update the mind map. (See Appendix H.)

## WSC 2016 PROCESS FOR BUSINESS SESSIONS

4:03 pm–6:06 pm      *Led by Dickie D and Laura B (WSC Cofacilitators) and Mark H (World Board). Don Cameron (WSC Parliamentarian) also was present.*

Mark H (WB) opened the session and then introduced the WSC Cofacilitators Dickie and Laura, as well as Don Cameron, the WSC Parliamentarian.

### **Testing the equipment**

Dickie D (WSC CF) began by taking attendance as a way to test the new electronic equipment, and announced there were 112 regional delegates present.

Laura B (WSC CF) then facilitated another test run of the electronic system using a mock proposal:

#### **Proposal QQQ: Should Franney dye her hair blue to match the color of the Basic Text?**

*Maker:* Planet Claire Region

*Intent:* To have our World Board chair be a living testimony to the power of our literature.

She repeated the instructions on how to use the remotes in voting and called out the participants who did not yet participate until everyone voted. The results of the poll were: strong support 74-18-8-12.

### **Processes for business sessions**

Mark H (WB) explained that the session will review current and proposed processes for business and business discussion sessions. He explained that the Conference is in a transition from parliamentary procedure to less formal, and hopefully more intuitive, processes. We try to make improvements each WSC.

Dickie let participants know most of the time will be spent in business discussion and proposal decisions sessions, not formal business. Participants will have lists of all of the items for decision, and items will be taken by topic, not in numerical/alphabetical order. Dickie reviewed some basic terminology and use of the laminated cards. He said that a new process for the discussion queue is being proposed this Conference, and it will be covered later in this session.

Laura reviewed the flowcharts in the Business Process packet which give an overview of the usual steps that happen for each item in the Business Discussion and Proposal Decisions sessions.

Mark explained the proposed “80/20 rule,” which is designed to help the WSC not spend excess time on items that are clearly supported or not supported. If a proposal or motion has at least 80% support, or 20% or less support in the initial straw poll, we would call that consensus support or consensus not in support. We would hear from two participants not

part of the consensus, and then take a second straw poll. If consensus remains, there would be no further discussion on the particular item. If it is a proposal, the second straw poll would be a final decision, a vote. If it is a motion, it may be brought up during formal business session for decision.

Laura gave an overview of the rest of the discussion process, letting participants know there may be a number of straw polls during discussion of an item. The Cofacilitators can choose to close the queue or pool if discussion does not seem to be moving the body. A participant always has the right to challenge the decision of the Cofacilitators. Mark explained that Motion 16 proposes that there must be 80% support of the Cofacilitators' decision to end discussion or to close the queue for the Cofacilitators' decision on these specific actions to stand if challenged.

The Cofacilitators then explained options for voting and answering straw polls, including the difference between an abstention and present not voting; reviewed some of the basics of parliamentary procedure used in the formal business sessions; and went over the electronic polling system again.

### ***Motions 15, 16, and 17***

Mark H (WB) provided some background on the proposed processes. Old business Motions 15, 16, 17 are for WSC 2016 only. If the WSC wants to adopt any of them as ongoing policy that can happen through a new business proposal.

Motion 15 offers a definition of consensus and a way to limit discussion when the Conference is in consensus according to the proposed 80/20 rule explained above.

Motion 16 outlines processes for managing discussion and includes a proposed new measure of consensus support to uphold the Cofacilitators' decision to close the queue or discussion pool if that decision is challenged.

Motion 17 proposes a change in the terminology used to refer to straw poll outcomes so that the language refers to the level of support, not opposition. This change better accounts for the possible effect of abstentions and the fact that whether or not a motion or proposal carries depends upon the level of support for the measure.

Don Cameron (Parliamentarian) then spoke to the proposed processes, recalling how confusing and frustrating the Conference could be when he first started coming in 1984. These processes are intended to help us more efficiently use our time, Don said, and he reminded participants he is available to answer any questions about business processes.

### ***Proposed queuing process***

Laura B (WSC CF) reviewed the proposed process for queuing in the Business Discussion and Proposal Decision sessions:

For WSC Agreement:

To utilize the following approach to discussion during the Business Discussion and Proposal Decisions for WSC 2016 only:

- **Participants will raise their cards to be added to the “discussion pool,” an ordered grid of numbers that will be displayed on the overhead.**
- **Cofacilitators will determine speaking order and form a portion of the queue at a time to display on the overhead.**
- **Participants who have not yet spoken in a session will be recognized first. (“Old Business Discussion and Proposed Decisions” is considered one session, “Formal Old Business” is one session, “New Business Discussion and Proposals” is one session, and “Formal New Business” is a session.)**

This process allows the Cofacilitators to actually facilitate the discussion and help the Conference hear from a broad range of participants, Laura explained. Participants will be asked to agree to this before the close of this session.

## Q&A

A number of delegates asked for clarification about the mechanics of the process. One delegate asked for the exact number for consensus support of the body, and Laura explained that the number will vary depending on the number of participants in the room and voting. Most of the questions related to the use of the yellow cards, which the Cofacilitators and Mark clarified are only used in the formal business session. Concerns were raised about how participants could get their questions answered. This part of the process is not new, Laura reminded participants: Yellow cards are not used outside of formal business. Participants who have questions join the queue or ask a question during a break. The Cofacilitators assured participants that asking a question would not count as having spoken in a session for purposes of ordering the queue.

Some questions related to how the queue would be ordered. Laura explained that initially the order would be random and then, in addition to considering who has already spoken, the Cofacilitators will consider other factors to hear from a variety of participants such as US, non-US, and Board members, or there may be cases where a particular viewpoint might be sought. One participant asked how the body can safeguard against Cofacilitator favoritism, and Laura answered that they will be acting as impartial and fair trusted servants and trying to balance discussion to the best of their ability.

## **Proposed queueing process vote & session conclusion**

After answering all of the questions, Laura B (WSC CF) reread the proposed queueing process (see above) and asked that regional delegates only participate in the vote.

### **Strong support 98-6-4-1**

Mark H (WB) closed out the session reminding participants that the Cofacilitators, Don Cameron, and Mark himself are available to answer questions about the material in the session.

Announcements included that the proposal deadline was extended to 6:30 pm. Please submit any procedural motions such as dividing the question by that deadline so that we can make these decisions during the Business Discussion and Proposal Decisions session as we did at the last Conference. Mark is available to anyone needing assistance with wording a proposal. There were no additional numbers in the queue. The session ended at 6:06 pm.

## DELEGATES SHARING

7:30 pm–9:00 pm

Led by Louis H (RD Chicagoland), Jimmy E (RD Sweden), and

Sue K (RD Australia)

The Delegates Sharing session was created to provide time during the World Service Conference for regional and alternate delegates to share their experiences in personal, one-one-one discussions in order to foster unity. Participants shared in a large group discussion about how to personally and actively practice the principles of the Conference theme (Honesty, Trust, and Goodwill) to contribute to WSC unity, and then broke into small group discussion to talk about a variety of topics with related questions:

COMMITMENT: Effectively organizing and reporting information

- ◆ How do you efficiently and effectively report back to your regions after the Conference and throughout the two-year cycle? What successful strategies do you have for organizing all the information we manage?

HUMILITY: Approaching service with an open mind, humility, and tolerance

Our service always challenges us to personally practice the spiritual principles of our Twelve Steps, Traditions, and Concepts.

- ◆ How do you approach ongoing and new service experiences with open-mindedness, humility, patience, tolerance, and willingness? How can you/we practice these principles, along with honesty, trust, goodwill, unity, and love here at the WSC?

FAITH: Being prepared and reliable, and asking for help and delegating

When we personally practice spiritual principles, we are better prepared to serve effectively: being spiritually prepared, committed, and thorough; being reliable, following through on what we say we'll do; seeking support and help when we need it; delegating tasks and mentoring others

- ◆ What are some ways you actually see spiritual principles in action in your service work that help you to be prepared, committed, thorough, and reliable? How do spiritual principles guide you to seek support and help when you need it, and to delegate tasks and mentor others?

BALANCE: Balancing service demands with other aspects of our lives

With so many priorities to juggle—job, recovery, family, service, hobbies, health, etc.—it can be really difficult to take good care of ourselves and manage our time well.

- ◆ How do you find balance to divide your time between self, family, service, and other pursuits in our lives?

UNITY: Sharing new challenges and successes, inspiring others to serve, and maintaining an atmosphere of recovery in service.

Many delegates want to know how other delegates get people excited and inspired by service (and how to keep them involved), how others meet challenges, and about new ideas that work and make a difference, (service structure, communication and technology, cost-saving ideas, etc.). Let's share some of our best examples of these.

- ◆ How do you and those in your region inspire members? How do you create a welcoming atmosphere and overcome apathy?
- ◆ What new ideas have you tried in your regions since last Conference? What were your experiences and outcomes?

After returning to the large-group setting, participants shared highlights from their small group discussions.

## Monday 25 April 2016

### OLD BUSINESS DISCUSSION AND PROPOSAL DECISIONS

9:00 am–Tuesday 26 April 12:39 am Led by Dickie D and Laura B (WSC Cofacilitators)

Roll call #1 was conducted [See Appendix B] by Dickie D (WSC CF), 128 participants were present (112 regions), 75 represents a 2/3 majority, 57 represents a simple majority.

Note: Appendix C contains a brief glossary of decision-making terms.

*Motion #18*

**To approve 2014 World Service Conference Minutes.**

*Maker: World Board*

***Initial (and final) straw poll Motion 18: strong support 106-0-5-1 (yes-no-abstain-present not voting)***

Dickie D (WSC CF) announced this would be the final straw poll because there is no one to speak against the motion.

*Motion #15*

**To adopt for WSC 2016 only, the following approaches for use in all business and business discussion & proposal decisions sessions:**

### **Measuring Consensus**

**Consensus will be measured as 80% or more of voting participants in agreement with (identified as *consensus support*), or 80% or more of voting participants not in agreement (identified as *consensus not in support*) with a motion or proposal.**

### **Introducing Motions and Proposals**

Once a motion or proposal is presented, the maker can comment and the World Board can comment. The facilitator will then conduct a straw poll to measure the initial level of support for the motion or proposal.

- If there is a *consensus not in support* of the motion or proposal, the facilitator will select two members who are not part of the consensus, to comment on the motion or proposal. The facilitator will then conduct a second straw poll.
  - If a *consensus not in support* remains, discussion ends. For a proposal, the results of the straw poll will be considered a vote and the proposal will fail. Final decision of a motion will happen during the business session, if presented then.
- If there is *consensus support* for the motion or proposal, the facilitator will select two members who are not part of the consensus, to comment on the motion or proposal. The facilitator will then conduct a second straw poll.
  - If *consensus support* remains, discussion ends. For a proposal, the results of the straw poll will be considered a vote and the proposal will be adopted. Final decision of a motion will happen during the business session if it is presented then.
- If the motion or proposal receives more than 20% but less than 80% support in the first or second straw poll, the facilitator will allow for discussion of the motion or proposal, as discussed in *A Guide to World Services* and using these tools.

*Intent:* To continue our evolution towards a consensus based conference

*Maker:* World Board

In speaking to the motion, Franney J (WB Chair) stated that the goal is to more efficiently get through business.

Invalidated initial straw poll Motion 15: consensus support 104-6-3-0

John R (RD Free State) said that his region does not want to move to consensus-based decision making.

Gregory S (RD Metro Detroit) mentioned that this doesn't speak to the fact that other filters such as non-English speakers were to be prioritized in the queue. Are we also going to use that other kind of filter?

Dickie explained that there isn't a queue for this particular process because it involves selecting only two participants. The Cofacilitators will do their best to be unbiased.

Oscar (RD California Inland) stated that the process should not be used before it is approved and discussion shouldn't be limited to two people. Dickie acknowledged that was the case.

The initial straw poll was retaken because a Board member accidentally voted.

***Initial straw poll Motion 15 retaken: strong support 102-7-2-0***

Several participants spoke in opposition to the motion, citing concerns over the limited number of participants who would be allowed to speak, were the motion to pass, and whether this would be in harmony with Concept Nine, as well as the method for choosing who would speak.

Mitchell S (RD Greater New York) stated that he was on the workgroup and the goal was to help the WSC move to consensus-based decision making. The workgroup decided that 80% might work as a measure of consensus, but believed that the body needs to hear from the minority even if there seems to be consensus, and if the body allows this to get tried out, it might find this works and still gives voice to the minority opinion.

Louis H (RD Chicagoland) and Jayme S (RD Colorado) shared how their regions used CBDM. There were a number of suggested changes to the motion including to change the number “two” in the motion to “three,” or to state that “a maximum of 50% of the opposition” would be allowed to speak, or to further define the types of opposition views that would be selected to speak.

***Final straw poll Motion 15: strong support 89-21-2-0***

25 minute break followed by continued discussion on Motion 15.

Dickie asked the body: Would you like to change/amend the motion?

***Straw poll to amend Motion 15: lack of support 50-60-2-0***

***Vote on whether to begin using the Motion 15 process immediately: carried with strong support 96-15-1-0***

Dickie confirmed that the Motion 15 process will be used in the Old Business Discussion and Proposal Decisions session.

***Motion #16***

**To adopt for WSC 2016 only, the following approaches for use in all business and business discussion & proposal decisions sessions:**

**Managing Discussions**

**The facilitator has the ability to manage the discussion by using the following approaches:**

- **The facilitator may conduct intermediate straw polls to measure any change in support for the motion or proposal.**
- **The facilitator may declare that discussion will end after a specific speaker, or the facilitator may close the discussion queue.**
  - **If there is an objection, the facilitator will conduct a vote to determine support for the facilitator’s decision. *Consensus support* for the facilitator’s decision is required for the decision to prevail.**
- **Members may speak for a maximum of three minutes each time they are recognized by the facilitator. The facilitator may extend the time limit when they believe such action is warranted.**

*Intent:* To give the WSC Cofacilitators more tools to use to facilitate discussion.

*Maker:* World Board

Franney J (WB Chair) stated that this motion comes from the workgroup on WSC Decision Making.

***Initial straw poll Motion 16: consensus support 104-6-1-1***

In response to a question, Laura B (WSC CF) explained that the Cofacilitators will ask for objections when closing the queue.

No one raised their card to speak against Motion 16 so a final straw poll was taken.

***Final straw poll Motion 16: consensus support 108-3-1-0***

***Vote to use the Motion 16 process now: carried with strong support 109-2-1-0***

Laura clarified that the “consensus support” terminology will be used in the discussion of items, but when making a decision, the “strong support” terminology will be used.

***Motion #17***

**To adopt for WSC 2016 only, the following changes to *A Guide to World Services*, page 10.**

**The following terms are used by the WSC Cofacilitator when announcing the results of a straw poll:**

**Unanimous support**

**Strong support** (meaning 2/3 majority support)

**Support** (meaning simple majority support)

**~~Opposition~~ Lack of support** (meaning less than simple majority opposed support)

**~~Strong opposition~~ Lack of support** (meaning 2/3 opposed less than 1/3 support)

**~~Unanimous opposition~~ No support**

*Intent:* To change terminology so that it reflects the level of support when straw polling.

*Maker:* World Board

Franney J (WB Chair) again stated that this was the recommendation of the workgroup on WSC Decision Making.

***Initial straw poll Motion 17: consensus support 109-2-1-0***

There was some confusion about why the Cofacilitators identified the level of support as “consensus support” when that is not in the terminology listed in Motion 17. Laura explained that the previous motions are for use at this conference, and that Motion 17 is about changing the terminology in *GWSNA*. Motion 15 explains consensus support.

There was an objection raised to eliminating the terminology “opposition” because it does not necessarily mean the same thing as “not supporting” something.

***Final straw poll Motion 17: consensus support 102-4-4-0***

In response to questions from participants, Laura B (WSC CF) explained that the phrase “for WSC 2016 only” was an error in Motion 17; the intent is to revise *GWSNA*. The decision will be revisited in new business. The reason the Conference is considering changes in the process for this Conference only is to give a chance to try things before passing a new business proposal to make changes to *GWSNA*.

***Motion #1***

**To approve the book contained in Addendum A, “Guiding Principles: The Spirit of Our Traditions,” as Fellowship-approved recovery literature.**

*Intent:* To have an additional piece of Fellowship-approved material available about our Traditions for use by NA members, groups, and service committees.

*Maker:* World Board

Franney J (WB Chair) reminded everyone that a workbook on the Traditions was prioritized by WSC 2012. Because of technical challenges, it took six and a half minutes to conduct the first straw poll.

***Initial straw poll Motion 1: consensus support 109-2-1-0***

***Proposal R***

**To amend Motion 1 to change one word in the Introduction to Guiding Principles on page 63 of the 2016 *CAR*, 4th paragraph, 3rd sentence. What now reads “Earlier programs for addicts, including some bearing the same name, did not practice Traditions and did not survive,” would be changed to “Earlier programs for addicts, including some bearing the same name, did not have Traditions and did not survive.”**

*Intent:* To accurately reflect the history referred to in the introduction.

*Maker:* Greater New York Region

Mitchell S (RD Greater New York) said that his region was in support of the project and did not wish to hold up publication, but objected to wording in the introduction which was not part of the review draft. Proposal R would help avoid controversy.

Franney J (WB Chair) stated that it was never the intent to misrepresent and the Board didn't oppose the proposed change.

Invalidated initial straw poll Proposal R: consensus support 93-17-3-0

Deb N (RD British Columbia) said that members in her region felt that this change would make the book Conference-approved rather than Fellowship-approved.

Biff K (AD Florida) stated that the history presentation on Saturday night made it clear that the Traditions *were* available at that time and that a choice was made not to use them.

***An error in the initial straw poll vote count led to a new initial straw poll.***

***Initial straw poll Proposal R retaken: lack of support 50-59-1-2***

Felipe V (RD Colombia) said that he didn't understand why the Traditions weren't available in New York when they had them in Colombia when he got clean in 1999.

Nathan F (RD Mid-America) said that similar changes had been made in the past and the literature was still considered Fellowship-approved. He also disagreed with the AD from Florida's interpretation of history. The proposal is attempting to correct the introduction, which he believes to be offensive, and it's significant that Board is not standing in the way of this change.

Blanca C (RD Region Del Coqui) was also not against the book project, but her region hadn't had a chance to read it. She quoted a section from *GWSNA* about the worldwide nature of NA and spoke to her belief that all regions should have the same opportunity as English speakers to read literature in their own languages before approving it.

Dawn P (RD Montana) was in favor of the proposal and felt that changing "practiced" to "have" is simply a housekeeping issue. She reminded the body that the historians Saturday night explained that history is open to interpretation

Arthur A (RD Southern California) said that his region is against a change because the Traditions were available at the time and a choice was made not to practice them.

Julie R (AD California Mid-State) asked if the introduction was available for review, and if the change was made, would it still be possible to approve and publish the book.

Franney J (WB Chair) explained that the introduction went out for review.

Mary B (WB) said that the feedback from the Fellowship indicated that the longer history referencing a number of other programs was not desired. The sentence captures the reality of many programs known to exist. Some of them had traditions and others didn't, but none of them practiced the Traditions. "Have" might be the right word if only New York was being referred to but it would be misleading because the sentence doesn't just refer to New York.

***Second straw poll Proposal R: strong lack of support 22 -87-2-1***

Because of technical difficulties the final vote on Proposal R took approximately five minutes.

***Proposal R failed: 13-96-3-0***

No one wished to speak in opposition to Motion 1 so a final straw poll was taken.

***Final straw poll Motion 1: strong support 111-1-0-0***

The session broke at 12:20 and resumed after lunch at 2:10 pm.

Roll call #2 was conducted [See Appendix B] by Dickie D (WSC CF), 128 participants were present (112 regions), 75 represents a 2/3 majority, 57 represents a simple majority.

## *Motion #2*

**To approve the following changes to the World Board External Guidelines contained in A Guide to World Services in NA (GWSNA):**

- **To change the size of the Board from up to 18 members to up to 15 members.**
- **To remove the obligation for staggered terms if more than eight (8) members are elected at one time.**
- **To change the limitation from two consecutive terms to two terms in a lifetime.**

*Intent:* There are actually three intents: one to reduce the maximum size of the World Board for effectiveness and financial sustainability; second, to eliminate the requirement for terms of less than six years for some members; and third, to limit the number of terms for which any member is eligible for election to the World Board.

*Maker:* World Board

Franney J (WB Chair) acknowledged that the body may want to divide this motion, and if so, the World Board will not stand in the way. She explained that some of the purposes of the motion are to improve the effectiveness of communications, and looking at the size of the World Board and the Conference, foster a trimming where we can.

### ***Initial straw poll Motion 2: consensus support 99-11-1-1***

Maciej W (RD Poland) voted no on the motion because there is a proposal to divide it.

Daniel A (Toti) (RD Argentina) region voted no because it is not good to reduce the size of the World Board and that we should find alternative ways to grow.

Dickie stopped discussion and apologized for not first addressing the proposals related to the motion.

### ***Proposal V***

**To commit Motion 2 to World Board for further clarification and submit at the WSC 2018 separated.**

*Intent:* To communicate effectively with the fellowship to clarify the intent of each section of the motion.

*Maker:* Northern California Region

Michelle S (RD Northern California) said she was willing to withdraw the proposal if the motion can be split.

### ***Proposal P***

**To amend Motion 2 to strike the words “up to” that precedes 15 members. The new sentence would read. “To change the size of the WB from up to 18 members to 15 members.”**

*Intent:* To create policy that 15 members must be elected to the World Board.

*Maker:* Mountaineer Region

Kristina C (RD Mountaineer) said the proposal is to ensure that every WSC elects a full Board so that we do not miss opportunities and we maintain diversity, especially if the Board becomes smaller.

Franney J (WB Chair) said that the WSC has had a hard time electing a full World Board. The Board was not in favor of reducing the amount of support to elect a World Board member below majority support and that “up to 15” will maintain diversity and meet the needs to service the Conference, as well as keep costs manageable.

### ***Initial straw poll Proposal P: consensus not in support 20-86-5-1***

Janeen (RD Kentuckiana) said that this proposal would mandate that someone must fill the position and could result in just electing a “warm body.”

**Proposal P failed: 7-103-1-1**

**Proposal G**

**To divide Motion 2 into 3 separate motions comprised of the 3 bullet points in Motion 2.**

*Intent:* To allow each bullet point to be considered separately.

*Maker:* German Speaking Region

Helge (RD German speaking) explained that his region had different votes on different parts of Motion Two.

Franney J (WB Chair) stated that the World Board didn't oppose consideration of this, but reminded everyone that the first straw poll on Motion 2 was 99 in favor.

**Initial straw poll Proposal G: lack of support 50-56-1-5**

Several regions stated that their regions supported Motion 2 as a whole and all three parts, but they would support dividing it to accommodate other regions.

In response to a question from a participant, Dickie explained that a motion with three separate intents was not out of order.

Kathleen M (RD Mid-Atlantic) said that if a region is in favor of all three parts they can still vote yes for all three parts, but those regions who have different votes on the different parts will not know how to respond if the motion is not split.

Michelle S (RD Northern California) explained that for her region, voting no on Motion 2 as a whole would be ineffective communication to the World Board because her region is in favor of a smaller Board.

Some participants suggested that we may want to look at changes to the process in the future. One participant called attention to the fact that the body will need to go through the same discussion with Proposal N if Proposal G fails. Another suggested that when a motion, like Motion 2, has such a great deal of support, the body should move forward with it and not take the time to deal with so many amendments. Another participant said this could be a good lesson for the future to not combine intents and ideas so we don't do this again.

**Second straw poll Proposal G: support 66-42-0-4**

**Proposal G carried: 74-35-0-3**

**Proposal N**

**To divide Motion 2 into 3 separate motions. Each motion corresponding to the bullet points in Motion 2.**

*Intent:* To separate the ideas in Motion 2 to decide separately.

*Maker:* Mountaineer Region

**Proposal N was withdrawn.**

**Proposal V was also withdrawn.**

In response to a question, Dickie clarified that Motion 15 doesn't affect the amount it takes to pass any proposal or motion.

**Motion #2A**

**To approve the following change to the World Board External Guidelines contained in A Guide to World Services in NA (GWSNA):**

**A♦ To change the size of the Board from up to 18 members to up to 15 members.**

*Maker:* World Board

**Initial (and final) straw poll Motion 2A: consensus support 97-13-0-1**

In response to questions, Dickie confirmed that motions do not take effect until the end of the Conference.

*Motion #2B*

**To approve the following change to the World Board External Guidelines contained in A Guide to World Services in NA (GWSNA):**

**B♦ To remove the obligation for staggered terms if more than eight (8) members are elected at one time.**

***Initial straw poll Motion 2B: consensus support 103-7-2-0***

Sandy (RD ABCD) said that if we elect ten Board members at this Conference, then reduce the size of Board to 15 and then if we only elect twelve, that means in six years we'll set the future WSC to elect 2/3 of the board or more.

***Final straw poll Motion 2B: consensus support 100-7-3-2***

*Motion #2C*

**To approve the following change to the World Board External Guidelines contained in A Guide to World Services in NA (GWSNA):**

**C♦ To change the limitation from two consecutive terms to two terms in a lifetime.**

***Initial (and final) straw poll Motion 2C: consensus support 110-1-0-1***

In answer to participant questions, Dickie confirmed that this motion would apply to those who have already served two terms prior to this motion, and clarified that those who served prior to 1998 can be elected to the World Board because they have never served on the Board.

George B-H (AD Washington/N Idaho) and Lisa C (RD Pacific Cascade) asked if it would be possible to have Motion 2A take effect immediately.

Dickie replied that a proposal would have had to been submitted by the deadline in order to do that as this is an old business motion. He then polled the body as to whether they wanted Motion 2A to take effect immediately, thereby reducing the number of Board members possibly elected at this conference to "up to 15."

***Straw poll on having Motion 2A take effect immediately: strong support 85-24-1-2***

Some delegates expressed frustration and confusion with the process and how this motion affects the upcoming elections, as well as a desire to move on.

Break from 4:40 until 5:14 pm.

Upon resuming, Laura told the body that it has the power to do anything it wants to do with a 2/3 majority, and clarified that the previous straw poll only applied to Motion 2A. The intent of having Motion 2A take effect immediately would be to affect the elections at this WSC, to lower the number of open positions from ten to seven.

Franney J (WB Chair) explained that if Motion 2A went into effect immediately, it wouldn't affect currently seated Board member; because of state mandated laws which require that World Board names are filed, it would take 60-90 days for the motion to take effect.

Several delegates gave reasons the WSC should stick to established policy—policy shouldn't be changed on the floor of a service body, the Conference should respect the old business deadline, and the body should have faith and not work so hard to try to affect the outcome of elections. Daniel A (Toti) (RD Argentina) added that he was discouraged that the Conference has talked about faster and simpler processes, but things are getting more complicated as we go.

***Final vote on Motion 2A becoming effective immediately upon passing: failed 45-59-3-4***

### *Motion #3*

**That the NA World Board develop a project plan which includes a budget and timeline to create an informational pamphlet specifically about mental illness and recovery for consideration at the 2018 World Service Conference.**

*Intent:* To have a fellowship approved, clear Narcotics Anonymous message about the important issue of mental illness and recovery that is available in a pamphlet format.

*Maker:* Eastern New York Region

Vanessa I (RD Eastern New York) expressed that her region strongly felt a need for a more accessible piece of literature on the issue of mental illness in recovery, and that it is an inside issue. *In Times of Illness* isn't widely accessible at meetings, but an IP would be.

Franney J (WB Chair) replied that the discussion as to how to move forward would occur when the literature survey results were reviewed, and that prioritization is necessary with limited resources.

### ***Initial straw poll Motion 3: strong support 87-21-3-0***

Louis H (RD Chicagoland) said that his region was strongly in favor of literature on mental health, and asked if, as a CAR motion, it took precedence over the literature survey. If Motion 3 doesn't pass would the topic still rise to a higher prioritization because it did receive a lot of support in the survey? He also expressed that Chicagoland believes this topic warrants a two year discussion of the project plan.

Laura replied that CAR motions take precedence over the literature survey, and that the RDs have tools for prioritizing projects.

Arthur A (RD Southern California) shared that his region voted yes, but would like to see something other than an IP such as a booklet.

Michael G (RD North Carolina) voted against the motion because we should move toward what the Fellowship chose, not what a region is suggesting.

### ***Final straw poll Motion 3: consensus support 94-17-1-0***

### *Motion #4*

**That all future approved World Board Minutes be posted on na.org for download.**

*Intent:* To create accessibility to all World Board minutes.

*Maker:* Show Me Region

Rob B (RD Show-Me) said the minutes have been posted on other sites and Show-Me believes if the minutes are posted in one place they should be available on na.org. They are open to any common sense solution.

Franney J (WB Chair) responded that any NA member can request minutes, but we limit the distribution of minutes to NA members to minimize the potential use of information in ways that can interfere with the free exchange of ideas or potentially expose us to litigation.

### ***Initial straw poll Motion 4: strong lack of support 32-77-0-3***

### *Proposal H*

**To change Motion 4 – To create a sign up list for members to automatically receive WB Minutes if they desire to do so. They can remove themselves from the list if they no longer wish to receive minutes.**

*Intent:* To simplify the process to receive WB minutes.

*Maker:* German Speaking Region

Helge B (RD German Speaking) stated that there seems to be a small minority that wants to receive the minutes and it seems unreasonable to post them on the website, but the process to receive them is not very user friendly. The proposal seeks to find a simple compromise.

Franney J (WB Chair) replied that a subscription process has its own expenses and difficulties to maintain, and that the request for minutes is not cumbersome but it's simply an email.

**Initial straw poll Proposal H: strong lack of support 25-80-2-5**

Russell G (RD Utah) and Clif G (RD California Mid-State) both expressed their belief that the current process is cumbersome and would like a simpler process such as a form of subscription.

**Proposal H failed: 25-80-2-3.**

No one wished to discuss Motion 4 further.

**Final straw poll Motion 4: strong lack of support 29-81-0-2**

**Motion #5**

**That all Financial Reporting for the World Convention of Narcotics Anonymous be provided in a detailed line item format and not in a summary as is currently available. This report will be posted on na.org and be downloadable.**

*Intent:* Financial Transparency

*Maker:* Show Me Region

Rob B (RD Show-Me) said that this was presented previously in 2010, and that in their regional assembly it was noted that the miscellaneous expenses seem to be somewhat high. Franney J (WB Chair) explained that all expenses for WCNA can be found in the Annual Report and that information about a specific item can be obtained from NAWS. She gave an example using the expense for a pallet of water and how it could be divided between different expense areas. A line item format is not standard operating procedure for accounting for an event that large that occurs over an extended cycle of two or more years. No information has been provided as to what specific information is being sought.

Anthony E (NAWS ED) added that WCNA spans multiple fiscal years and makes it hard to get an accurate financial picture for a convention when you look at a single year's summary. That's why we create a summary. Also, Anthony said, we just looked at the summary for WCNA 36 and the Annual Report and we can't find the Miscellaneous entry you're referring to. So maybe you can get with us and let us know where you found that entry. We believe there is enough detail published for most NA members to understand the information.

**Initial straw poll Motion 5: lack of support 39-71-1-1**

Kathleen M (AD Mid-Atlantic) said that her region voted yes to the motion because there seems to be many motions in the CAR from regions concerning the lack of transparency on the World Board level and this a big concern for her region.

Gregory S (RD Metro Detroit) said this motion was controversial in his region. They were not as concerned with details of numbers as with understanding the expense categories.

**Final straw poll Motion 5: lack of support 39-72-1-0**

**Motion #6**

**That all face to face World Board meetings be open to any NA member on a space available basis; unless the topic(s) being discussed are required by law to be confidential.**

*Intent:* To return the WB to the common practice that other NA boards and committees follow.

*Maker:* San Diego/Imperial Region

Dave T (RD San Diego/Imperial Counties) stated that the rationale was in the CAR and that the Fellowship has had a chance to discuss this. He expressed additional concerns about

the precedent the decision makes—for instance, if an RSC Board of Directors were to make a similar decision based on the World Board’s decision.

Franney J (WB Chair) reiterated some of the points from the Board’s response in the CAR, namely that there’s no equitable way to make the meetings accessible because it would only be open to those passing through. Also if visitors jumped in in the middle of a conversation about an issue it might not make as much sense. Additionally some issues must be in closed meetings.

**Initial straw poll Motion 6: lack of support 51-57-3-1**

James C (RD Sierra Sage) voted against this motion because of potential disruption by members attending.

Dave T (RD San Diego/Imperial Counties) stated his belief that open meetings would lessen the level of negative comments about the Board’s activities and that closed meetings are not in harmony with our principles.

**Final straw poll Motion 6: lack of support 54-54-3-1**

The body broke for dinner at 6:55. Laura B (WSC CF) reopened the session at 8:25 pm and began by discussing a request for a standing count for Motion 6, which would create policy and needs to pass by two-thirds in formal business.

**Straw poll on whether to take a standing count on Motion 6: strong lack of support 18-89-1-2**

**Motion #7**

**That if there continues to be a WSC Participants Discussion Board on NA.org that it be made accessible to non WSC participants; only for viewing, not posting.**

*Intent:* To allow any interested member to see what our WSC participants are discussing regarding fellowship and world service issues.

*Maker:* San Diego Imperial Region

Dave T (RD San Diego/Imperial Counties) said that his region felt that opening the discussion board would allow for more transparency, and the belief that having it open will cause more copying and pasting is not a good reason to close it because these things are happening anyway. The discussion board should be open to viewing by the Fellowship since it is a part of the website.

Franney J (WB Chair) said that the Board does not have an opinion about the issue and asked, how can we make this tool relevant, valuable, and safe from attack?

**Initial straw poll Motion 7: lack of support 51-57-3-0**

Kory P (AD Louisiana) shared how he didn’t have a strong opinion initially, but members in his region felt that having the board closed only to participants would be a good thing because it would provide a safe environment so ideas could be fleshed out to discuss in the region.

Adam H (RD Connecticut) shared his belief that the information in the World Board response in the CAR was misleading and inaccurate: The 2012 Conference did *not* make the initial decision to close the discussion board. The decision was made by NAWS following the WSC. The 2014 Conference was straw polled in the Saturday Moving Forward session, with no prior discussion and was strongly in favor of keeping the discussion board as is. Two other delegates supported this belief. Another said he believed that the Conference decided to leave the board closed.

Lisa C (RD Pacific Cascade) shared her experience of being attacked on the discussion board and said that our meager resources shouldn’t be wasted on a tool we don’t use because it’s not safe. She wanted to explore ways to make the discussion board safer.

Fabrizio C (RD Ecuador) shared that a few days ago he spoke about illicit literature in Ecuador, and somebody posted his comments on Facebook. He subsequently received threats from people in his region who are involved in producing the illicit literature. There are some items that can be spoken about in a very open way, but other issues cannot.

Robert W (AD Greater New York) said that the potential benefits of giving RDs privacy or increasing participation didn't happen; instead a sense of elitism and secrecy has been created. In general, the Fellowship is under informed, and an open board would help to combat that.

Kathleen M (RD Mid-Atlantic) said that her region believes that there are many more spiritual principles involved in opening the board than in keeping it closed.

**Final straw poll Motion 7: lack of support 50-56-3-1**

Laura said that discussion has not moved the body, and if there is no objection, she would like to move forward. The motion can be introduced in formal old business.

**Motion #8**

**To direct NAWS to produce a low-cost paperback English version of the Basic Text which contains only the first ten chapters called "Our Program".**

*Intent:* To provide a cost effective means to carry our message and fulfill our primary purpose.

*Maker:* OK Region

Cindi B (RD OK) said that as of today, the OK Region is not in support of the motion, but they have not withdrawn it due to the amount of discussion generated in the Fellowship.

Franney J (WB Chair) made the point that a significant portion of the NAWS budget comes from the Basic Text and that the projection is somewhere in the neighborhood of a \$1.3M per year reduction in revenue. Although the intent here is to make something more available for some, in actuality it would reduce the availability of free and subsidized literature.

**Initial straw poll Motion 8: consensus not in support 19-91-1-0**

Russell G (RD Utah) said his group prints copies of the Fifth Edition to give to newcomers and did not necessarily agree that there will be a net loss for NAWS, but he respects the will of the body.

Felipe V (RD Colombia) shared that he understands the large financial impact of this motion, but his region is taking a hit economically because they must purchase the literature in dollars and then they must translate that to Colombian pesos. He knows his is not the only region to be struggling with this. We must work together to find a solution to this issue.

**Final straw poll Motion 8: consensus not in support 15-93-1-2**

**Motion #9**

**To direct the World Board to post a PDF version of all approved English and translated Basic Texts on na.org for free download.**

*Intent:* To provide no cost access to our main piece of recovery literature.

*Maker:* Western Russia Region

Maria K (AD Western Russia) said that making our main piece of literature available is an embodiment of our primary purpose, and even though it will affect income from literature, it will also hopefully stimulate Seventh Tradition contributions.

Franney J (WB Chair) summarized the Board's response from the CAR. In the short time that PDFs were online, there were over 3 million downloads, which impacted not just income, but the ability to prevent illicit use of the PDFs particularly by other organizations. The revenue from the Basic Text funds services, including the Fellowship development work that helps make NA grow.

***Initial straw poll Motion 9: consensus not in support 10-101-0-0***

In response to a question, Franney stated that the Board did have a face-to-face meeting with the copyright lawyer, and a summary is available in the *Conference Report*, but no written statement from the attorney was distributed. She also said that she did not have the exact figure for loss of revenue from posting the PDFs.

***Final straw poll Motion 9: consensus not in support 8-103-1-0***

***Motion #10***

**To hold every other WSC outside of the US and to begin this rotation with WSC 2020 to be held in Moscow, Russia.**

*Intent:* To launch rotation of the location of the WSC in order to provide local fellowships around the world new opportunities for growth and development.

*Maker:* Western Russia Region

Maria K (AD Western Russia) expressed the belief that large service events have a great beneficial effect for the hosting areas and regions, and gave the example of the next Russian Zonal Forum taking place in a very eastern point of Russia, Kamchatka.

Franney J (WB Chair) restated the main points from the Board response in the *CAR*. In particular, holding the WSC outside the US would add hundreds of thousands of dollars to the cost plus create administrative challenges. The WSC took place outside California in 1992, 1994, and 1996, and was not cost effective so it was decided to stay within 75 miles of the WSO. This makes it possible for delegates to visit the office, to use WSO resources for the Conference, and to have staff drive to the WSC rather than stay at the hotel.

***Initial straw poll Motion 10: consensus not in support 8-103-1-0***

***Proposal I***

**To change Motion 10 to: “To hold one WSC outside the US.”**

*Maker:* German Speaking Region

Proposal I was withdrawn.

***Proposal M***

**To change Motion 10 to strike “to be held in Moscow, Russia” and replace with “to be held in an easily accessible location outside of the United States.”**

*Intent:* To explore the opportunity of furthering a Global fellowship.

*Maker:* South Florida Region

Jeffrey P (RD South Florida) declined to speak to the proposal.

Franney J (WB Chair) said that this proposal does not change the opinion of the Board about the potential effects of moving the Conference.

***Initial straw poll Proposal M: consensus not in support 14-96-1-1***

Auric M (RD Mexico) shared his belief that having the Conference in a Latin American country would be less expensive, would strengthen the ties that bind us, and would help to focus on the needs of Latin America.

Francois C (RD France) shared his belief that if we want to grow and be truly worldwide, we must move around the world.

***Proposal M failed: 16-93-2-0***

***Proposal J***

**To change Motion 10 to: “To host one WSC outside the US in 2020 or 2022 in a non-English speaking country. To allow bids in 2018 to host such an event and allow WSC 2018 to choose one region from the bids.”**

*Intent:* To explore the impact of rotation on WSC. This would also allow US delegates a first-hand experience of issues like translations and fellowship development.

*Maker:* German Speaking Region

***Proposal J was withdrawn.***

Discussion on Motion 10 continued.

Dave T (RD San Diego/Imperial Counties) encouraged the World Board to consider the ideas in these proposals, even though they were not adopted.

Evgeny K (RD Western Russia) said that any step forward to make our Fellowship more global costs money, and the money is available. Money isn't a problem; it is a tool.

Auric M (RD Mexico) said that keeping the Conference in the US is discriminatory. We must think about carrying the message of NA outside the US.

***Final straw poll Motion 10: consensus not in support 12-99-1-0***

***Motion #11***

**To allow a delegate from any Zonal Forum who requests it to be seated at the WSC as a non-voting participant. The expense of attendance will be the responsibility of the Zonal Forum and not the WSC.**

*Intent:* To involve zones at the WSC.

*Maker:* Western Russia Region

Evgeny K (RD Western Russia) stated the intent was to make a step forward by letting zonal representatives attend the WSC, but not yet as voting participants.

Franney J (WB Chair) said the Board understands that it's difficult to make a transition without trying things. If the Conference wanted to try this then the Board recommends it be for one time at WSC 2018. Currently there is not a clear, shared understanding of what a zone is. Were this to become policy, many complicated issues would need to be clarified.

***Initial Straw Poll Motion 11: lack of support 45-64-2-1***

***Proposal S***

**Amend Motion 11 by substitution - To allow a delegate from any zonal forum with unseated regions/communities who requests to be seated at the 2018 WSC, as a voting participant. Each zone will determine its method of selecting their delegate. The expense of the attendance is met by NAWS (unless funding is declined) as per same policy applied to regional delegates.**

*Intent:* To allow a delegate from each zonal forum to fully participate at WSC 2018.

*Maker:* Aotearoa New Zealand Region

Sharon K (RD Aotearoa New Zealand) said some zonal forums have nearly all of their communities seated, while others only have a minority seated. Sharon spoke to some of the needs of these communities, and said that her region strongly supported making it possible for underrepresented communities to participate at the Conference for one WSC only. The voice carried by other RDs or the Board does not adequately capture their needs. It wouldn't add a layer to the service structure as it would just be for participation at the WSC.

Franney J (WB Chair) said that this could significantly impact the budget. It may add as many as seven or eight participants on the floor, and that there aren't guidelines regarding how zones would qualify. She also thought it would be a significant impact on how decision making takes place and that the change would require 2/3 support, even for one Conference cycle.

***Initial straw poll Proposal S: strong lack of support 23-82-3-4***

Julio F (RD Uruguay) shared that seated regions in his zone try to share experience from the WSC with those who are not seated. Those regions who are not qualified would have a great opportunity if they could be here.

Jeffrey P (RD South Florida) shared that he doesn't know that there's any substitution for attendance at the WSC. He is not aware of any other service body that doesn't want people to attend. His region would seat anyone who requested it.

Keshan C (RD South Africa) said that South Africa is just one country on a continent of Africa of 53 countries. Africa has countless languages, peoples, and a zonal forum. Adding a zonal forum participant would be invaluable to the communities in the zone.

Sharon K (RD Aotearoa New Zealand) said that by her calculations, there would be five zones that could do this, which wouldn't add a lot of people, and would cost about \$8,000, which is a drop in the bucket. The Service System Project has a model that allows for this situation.

John F (AD Carolina) stated the proposal didn't say that this is a one-time deal, and it gives a vote to zones which his region is vehemently opposed to. The proposal would open the door to zonal seating without asking the Fellowship if they want to go in that direction, and he would like to see the Fellowship seat more regions instead of zones.

Louis H (RD Chicagoland) was concerned that the Board indicated in the CAR that there were two potential revisions they recommended to the motion, but then didn't make proposals to make those revisions.

Franney (WB Chair) replied that Motion 11 wasn't the Board's motion. They had offered possibilities for revisions if the motion was supported, but they weren't sure if it would be. It's up to this body to decide. Proposal S does not contain the elements that the Board was recommending for Motion 11.

#### **Proposal S failed: 26-82-0-4**

Discussion on Motion 11 resumed.

Participants from the UK, Nebraska, Greece, and Sierra Sage regions expressed support for the motion, citing unity, inclusivity, diverse representation, and better communication as their reasons. Others shared how money is a spiritual tool that needs to be used to better carry the message.

Michael G (RD North Carolina) said his region was also carrying the conscience of Bluegrass Appalachia, and both regions supported the idea. He shared about the privilege of carrying the conscience of an unseated region.

Daniel A (Toti) (RD Argentina) shared that his zone could not fund a participant to attend, and so the motion would discriminate against them. He also expressed confusion over trying to reduce the size of the World Board but also trying to bring in other members. WSC 2014 discussed having zonal forums be more involved but not to represent our regions.

#### **Second straw poll Motion 11: support 61-50-1-0**

Discussion on Motion 11 resumed at 11:20 pm after a 30 minute break.

Zoe H (RD Greater Philadelphia) wondered about the practicalities of the motion: what would a non-participating zonal delegate look like; where would they sit; what information would they be privy to; and how would their vote weigh in with respect to RDs?

Mark H (WB) said he was very sympathetic to this type of motion and disappointed that no one took the suggestion in the CAR to make this a one-time trial.

Rajinder P (RD SOSONA) said his region is strongly in support of the motion, and that they have been receiving help from NAWS with FD. The decision about the motion shouldn't be made emotionally.

Marla M (AD Wisconsin) said that her region is in favor of seating every region that applies and are vehemently opposed to seating zones in their current form. Backing this would open

the door to zonal seating in its current incarnation, and they would like to see something more formal and structured. She suggested that if zones want to come, they can sit in the gallery like any other non-voting visitor.

**Final straw poll Motion 11: support 60-49-1-1**

*Motion #12*

**That Narcotics Anonymous World Services add the following “What is NA Service” card as part of the Group Readings offered by the World Service Office.**

What is NA Service?

This is a very important integrant of our recovery, this is how our gratitude speaks, yet this is a way to carry the message of recovery to those addicts who still suffer. We usually begin being of service in NA making coffee/tea or cleaning our rooms after meetings. As we get some experience serving at the group level, many of us try ourselves out at a different point of service structure, for instance, - area or region.

Being of service in NA is for any of us. True service can be expressed by simple words quoted from the Basic Text: «True service is "doing the right things for the right reasons"» .

Being of service at a group level helps to strengthen the very foundation of our recovery because it could probably be the first time when we something for others without seeking to profit, expecting nothing in return. Serving at a group is another motive that helps us to attend meetings regularly. And our experience tells us that those who keep coming back regularly stay clean.

Being of service in NA is our gratitude to the Fellowship of Narcotics Anonymous for a new clean life. Many of us always wanted to be "a part of something". Service in NA indeed gives us a chance to become a part of a fellowship that saves our lives and helps addicts all over the world to stay clean and follow the way of recovery.

*Intent:* To provide NA groups with an approved piece of literature to use as a tool to foster a culture of getting involved into service.

*Maker:* Western Russia Region

Evgeny K (RD Western Russia) said that groups in his country use this and want to share it.

Franney J (WB Chair) said that all of the reading cards come directly from Fellowship-approved literature. The Board is not opposed to adding readings, but believes the material should be subject to the same review and input process as our other literature. She suggested that groups might consider reading *A Vision for NA Service* in their meetings, as it is already Fellowship approved.

**Initial straw poll Motion 12: strong lack of support 35-75-2-0**

*Proposal T*

**To refer Motion 12 to the World Board for study.**

*Intent:* To commit to the World Board.

*Maker:* Mountaineer Region

**Proposal T was withdrawn.**

*Proposal Q*

**To amend Motion 12 by substitution – To direct the World Board to create a project plan to create a reading card about service to be included in the 2018 CAT.**

*Intent:* To create the reading through the current process that allow the fellowship involvement rather than from a single region.

*Maker:* Central California Region

Rex J (RD Central California) said his region supported the reading card, but believed it needs to go through the process usually used to create literature in NA.

Franney J (WB Chair) said that while this particular idea might seem reasonable, it could interfere with other needs that come up during the week.

**Initial straw poll Proposal Q: lack of support 55-53-4-0**

Chris M (RD Buckeye) voted against this because he did not want to see the forced creation of a project plan usurp the literature survey results. George B-H (AD Washington/N Idaho) supported this viewpoint.

Adam H (RD Connecticut) voted no specifically because the proposal says that the project plan should be included in the 2018 CAT, and he believes that it should be in the CAR.

Harold L (RD Wisconsin) said that we don't use service-related materials in recovery meetings and that it would set a precedent in the eyes of his region, and would contradict the edicts what NA stands for, which is a program of recovery, not a program of service.

Helge B (RD German Speaking) said his region voted unanimously against this because another group reading card isn't needed. Three regional pamphlets on service have been produced, but none has attracted people to service. He withdrew Proposal K.

**Proposal Q failed: 29-81-2-0**

*Proposal W*

**To amend Motion 12 to read: That Narcotics Anonymous World Services create a project plan to develop a "What is NA Service" card as a part of group readings offered by World Service Office.**

*Intent:* To create a new reading card using the literature process we have in place.

*Maker:* Israel Region

**Proposal W was withdrawn.**

**Final straw poll on Motion 12: strong lack of support 20-91-1-0**

*Motion #13*

**Each World Board member votes only in Elections and may make motions in all sessions. The World Board has one collective vote (made by the Chairperson of the World Board) in new business sessions.**

*Intent:* This motion would change World Board voting in new business from (up to) 18 individual votes to one collective vote.

*Maker:* South Florida, Michigan, and Mid-Atlantic Regions

Kathleen M (RD Mid-Atlantic) said that, as it stands, a single World Board vote is equivalent to an entire region's vote, and one addict is not equal to thousands. Regardless of whether or not the World Board votes as a block, if all 18 members agree on a vote, then it's possible for the Board to overturn the will of the Fellowship. When the groups are overruled in this way, the WSC mission statement is not being fulfilled.

Franney J (WB Chair) reviewed the history of the motion, which had been presented at least three times since she had been attending the Conference. Board members are selected by 60% of the Conference to put them in a position of global perspective and strategic planning. The work they do to support the Fellowship provides them with a unique view of the world and its needs. In addition, the Board only votes in new business and elections and does not vote as a block. There is no mechanism in place for them to form a consensus on new business; each Board member brings their conscience to bear on new business.

**Initial straw poll Motion 13: lack of support 41-63-4-4**

Noel D (RD New England) said this was the only thing his region expressed any real opinion about; they couldn't understand why the experience of the World Board couldn't be shared without the need for a vote.

Several regions shared that this motion has been seen many times and that they did not support it. Helge B (RD German Speaking) added that there's a definition for this behavior of trying again and again to get different results.

Sandra M (RD ABCD) shared that her region was divided on this vote, and that when something comes up again and again, sometimes there's a good reason for it.

Cindi B (RD OK) said that the trusted servants in her region don't vote on business that goes back to the groups, but if it's something that comes up in the body, then they do get to vote. How is this different?

***Final straw poll Motion 13: lack of support 41-65-3-3***

***Motion #14***

**That the World Board or members of the World Board no longer make motions or proposals for decision at the WSC. The World Board may still forward ideas or work that regional delegates may present as a motion or proposal to the WSC for a decision.**

*Intent:* To remove the ability of the World Board and World Board Members to make motions or proposals in old business or new business at the WSC.

*Maker:* Mid-Atlantic Region

Kathleen M (RD Mid-Atlantic) added to the rationale of this motion that it is possible for service committee members to do work without making a motion about it, as area and regional secretaries do all the time when they produce minutes.

Franney J (WB Chair) questioned how matters would be dispensed with if motions weren't offered, and said that there were bylaws requiring the Board to present motions or proposals.

***Initial (and final) straw poll Motion 14: consensus not in support 19-91-0-2***

Laura closed the session at 12:39 am.

## Tuesday, 26 April 2016

### FORMAL OLD BUSINESS

9:06 am–5:52 pm

*Led by Dickie D and Laura B (WSC Cofacilitators)*

Roll call #3 was conducted [See Appendix B] by Dickie D (WSC CF), 127 participants were present (112 regions), 75 represents a 2/3 majority, 57 represents a simple majority.

Dickie D (WSC CF) reviewed the formal old business processes. Note: Appendix C contains a brief glossary of decision-making terms.

***Motion #18***

**To approve 2014 World Service Conference Minutes.**

*Maker:* World Board

Motion required simple majority.

***Motion 18 carried: 108-0-2-2 (yes-no-abstain-present not voting)***

***Motion #15***

**To adopt for WSC 2016 only, the following approaches for use in all business and business discussion & proposal decisions sessions:**

**Measuring Consensus**

**Consensus** will be measured as 80% or more of voting participants in agreement with (identified as *consensus support*), or 80% or more of voting participants not in agreement (identified as *consensus not in support*) with a motion or proposal.

### **Introducing Motions and Proposals**

Once a motion or proposal is presented, the maker can comment and the World Board can comment. The facilitator will then conduct a straw poll to measure the initial level of support for the motion or proposal.

- If there is a *consensus not in support* of the motion or proposal, the facilitator will select two members who are not part of the consensus, to comment on the motion or proposal. The facilitator will then conduct a second straw poll.
  - If a *consensus not in support* remains, discussion ends. For a proposal, the results of the straw poll will be considered a vote and the proposal will fail. Final decision of a motion will happen during the business session, if presented then.
- If there is *consensus support* for the motion or proposal, the facilitator will select two members who are not part of the consensus, to comment on the motion or proposal. The facilitator will then conduct a second straw poll.
  - If *consensus support* remains, discussion ends. For a proposal, the results of the straw poll will be considered a vote and the proposal will be adopted. Final decision of a motion will happen during the business session if it is presented then.
- If the motion or proposal receives more than 20% but less than 80% support in the first or second straw poll, the facilitator will allow for discussion of the motion or proposal, as discussed in *A Guide to World Services* and using these tools.

*Intent:* To continue our evolution towards a consensus based conference.

*Maker:* World Board

Motion required a 2/3 majority.

***Motion 15 carried: 105-7-0-0***

*Motion #16*

**To adopt for WSC 2016 only, the following approaches for use in all business and business discussion & proposal decisions sessions:**

### **Managing Discussions**

The facilitator has the ability to manage the discussion by using the following approaches:

- The facilitator may conduct intermediate straw polls to measure any change in support for the motion or proposal.
- The facilitator may declare that discussion will end after a specific speaker, or the facilitator may close the discussion queue.
  - If there is an objection, the facilitator will conduct a vote to determine support for the facilitator's decision. *Consensus support* for the facilitator's decision is required for the decision to prevail.
- Members may speak for a maximum of three minutes each time they are recognized by the facilitator. The facilitator may extend the time limit when they believe such action is warranted.

*Intent:* To give the WSC Cofacilitators more tools to use to facilitate discussion.

*Maker:* World Board

Motion required a 2/3 majority.

**Motion 16 carried: 107-4-1-0**

*Motion #17*

To adopt for WSC 2016 only, the following changes to *A Guide to World Services*, page 10. The following terms are used by the WSC Cofacilitator when announcing the results of a straw poll:

Unanimous support

Strong support (meaning 2/3 majority support)

Support (meaning simple majority support)

~~Opposition~~ Lack of support (meaning less than simple majority opposed support)

~~Strong opposition~~ Lack of support (meaning 2/3 ~~opposed~~ less than 1/3 support)

~~Unanimous opposition~~ No support

*Intent:* To change terminology so that it reflects the level of support when straw polling.

*Maker:* World Board

Eight yellow cards were raised, and four participants asked questions about the motion. In response, Dickie, Laura, and Franny J (WB Chair) repeatedly clarified that the body should consider the motion as it applied to this Conference's business, and in the New Business session a proposal would be made for a change to GWSNA. Two participants asked to appeal the facilitator's decision.

***Vote to support the facilitator's decision to consider the motion: 103-7-2-0—  
decision upheld***

Motion required a 2/3 majority.

**Motion 17 carried: 103-5-2-1**

After the vote on Motion 17, two other participants' requests to appeal the facilitator were ruled out of order.

*Motion #1*

**To approve the book contained in Addendum A, "Guiding Principles: The Spirit of Our Traditions," as Fellowship-approved recovery literature.**

*Intent:* To have an additional piece of Fellowship-approved material available about our Traditions for use by NA members, groups, and service committees.

*Maker:* World Board

Motion required a 2/3 majority.

**Motion 1 carried: 110-1-1-0**

Franny J (WB Chair) announced that at 10:19 am "Guiding Principles: The Spirit of Our Traditions" was approved.

*Motion #2A*

**To approve the following change to the World Board External Guidelines contained in *A Guide to World Services in NA (GWSNA)*:**

- ◆ **To change the size of the Board from up to 18 members to up to 15 members.**

*Intent:* To reduce the maximum size of the World Board for effectiveness and financial sustainability.

*Maker:* World Board

Motion required a 2/3 majority.

**Motion 2A carried: 104-8-0-0**

*Motion #2B*

**To approve the following change to the World Board External Guidelines contained in A Guide to World Services in NA (GWSNA):**

- ◆ **To remove the obligation for staggered terms if more than eight (8) members are elected at one time.**

*Intent:* To eliminate the requirement for terms of less than six years for some members.

*Maker:* World Board

Motion required a 2/3 majority.

***Motion 2B carried: 106-6-0-0***

*Motion #2C*

**To approve the following change to the World Board External Guidelines contained in A Guide to World Services in NA (GWSNA):**

- ◆ **To change the limitation from two consecutive terms to two terms in a lifetime.**

*Intent:* To limit the number of terms for which any member is eligible for election to the World Board.

*Maker:* World Board

Motion required a 2/3 majority.

***Motion 2C carried: 112-0-0-0***

*Motion #3*

**That the NA World Board develop a project plan which includes a budget and timeline to create an informational pamphlet specifically about mental illness and recovery for consideration at the 2018 World Service Conference.**

*Intent:* To have a fellowship approved, clear Narcotics Anonymous message about the important issue of mental illness and recovery that is available in a pamphlet format.

*Maker:* Eastern New York Region / *Second:* Chicagoland

Vanessa I (RD Eastern New York) said her region believes this is important and very much needed.

Arne H-G (WB Vice-chair) responded by stating that the Board will follow the direction of the body but also reminded participants about the literature survey.

In response to a question, Franney J (WB Chair) replied that there would possibly be a difference in time or prioritization between the project outlined in the motion and one that would result from the literature survey results. This motion specifies a timeline.

Two delegates spoke pro to the motion and two friendly amendments were offered, one asking to change the wording from “mental illness” to “mental health” and another to develop a booklet rather than IP. The motion maker declined to accept them as she didn’t believe she had the authority from her region to do so.

Seven yellow cards were raised with questions about the procedure being utilized, the detail of the motion, and the friendly amendments.

Franney and Junior B (WB) clarified that a shorter timeline would not be possible. Passing the motion would result in a project plan that included a timeline and budget being offered at WSC 2018.

Motion required a simple majority.

***Motion 3 carried: 93-17-1-0***

Dickie called for a break at 10:52 am, and the session resumed at 11:28.

#### *Motion #4*

**That all future approved World Board Minutes be posted on na.org for download.**

*Intent:* To create accessibility to all World Board minutes.

*Maker:* Show Me Region / *Second:* South Florida

The maker declined to speak to the motion.

Franney J (WB Chair) reminded everyone that there could be legal implications and that minutes are already provided to anyone who asks.

In response to a yellow card, Laura clarified that the motion would require a 2/3 majority.

Kathleen M (RD Mid-Atlantic) speaking pro: said the motion was asking for transparency, which is a spiritual principle.

Motion required a 2/3 majority.

***Motion 4 failed: 29-79-0-2***

#### *Motion #5*

**That all Financial Reporting for the World Convention of Narcotics Anonymous be provided in a detailed line item format and not in a summary as is currently available. This report will be posted on na.org and be downloadable.**

*Intent:* Financial Transparency

*Maker:* Show Me Region / *Second:* Mid-America

The maker declined to speak to the motion.

Franney J (WB Chair) said the Board's response to the motion was stated yesterday and is in the CAR, and the concerns from the fellowship were heard.

Motion required a 2/3 majority.

***Motion 5 failed: 34-76-1-0***

#### *Motion #6*

**That all face to face World Board meetings be open to any NA member on a space available basis; unless the topic(s) being discussed are required by law to be confidential.**

*Intent:* To return the WB to the common practice that other NA boards and committees follow.

*Maker:* San Diego Imperial Region / *Second:* Ohio

In response to a question about why the motion needed 2/3 to pass, Laura said that the motion would create policy, which requires 2/3. After consulting with the parliamentarian, Laura clarified that the Board has policies in place about how they conduct meetings, and so this would be a change in policy. This decision was appealed and upheld.

***Vote to appeal the facilitator: 66-40-4-2—decision upheld***

Jeffrey P (RD South Florida) read a passage from GWSNA and said that Motion 6 would affect internal guidelines of the Board, which are not in GWSNA and therefore the motion shouldn't require 2/3.

GWSNA: "To pass a motion on matters of policy, such as approval, removal, or change of previously adopted literature, or change to *A Guide to World Services in NA* (or subsequent service document), affirmative votes are required of two-thirds of the registered members present and voting."

Laura responded by saying that the chair's decision had been appealed and upheld.

Jeffrey P (RD South Florida) asked to appeal the facilitator and was called out of order.

Franney J(WB Chair) addressed the motion by referring to the response listed in the CAR and also offered the information that HIPAA regulations may have halted the work of the Traditions Book workgroup while visitors were removed.

Four more participants raising yellow cards subsequently spoke, several asking to reconsider the appeal given the information supplied by the delegate from South Florida.

Don Cameron (WSC Parliamentarian) addressed the Conference and began by acknowledging that this was a matter of judgment. The passage read from GWSNA uses the phrase “such as,” he said; the examples listed are not intended to be exhaustive. The motion would be a change of policy because it would change the way the Board functions. The Conference had agreed with the Cofacilitator’s decision and interpretation of that passage, he said.

Dave T (RD San Diego/Imperial Counties) spoke to the motion and said it was never the intent to have this become so contentious. He was very disappointed. He felt that the Board, not the Cofacilitators or Parliamentarian, set a 2/3 threshold. He said that it doesn’t matter much what the threshold is. If half the people I am serving disagree with a decision, I would tell people they were heard and that it would be taken into consideration. He felt he had heard the opposite from the Board and that there had been parliamentary wrangling to prevent this voice being heard. The purpose of the motion was to give the Board the opportunity to show that’s not how they work, but this has gone the opposite way and created mistrust.

Five more yellow cards were raised with procedural questions and questions about the voting threshold for the motion. They were addressed by Laura and Franney J (WB Chair).

Jeffrey P (RD South Florida) spoke pro to the motion, which he said was about openness and transparency. He asked delegates to vote for the motion so everyone could see what was going on in Board meetings, even if it led to problems.

Kathleen M (AD Mid-Atlantic) read from the WSC Mission Statement about how groups have a mechanism to guide NA World Services and referenced the Twelfth Concept. She stated that transparency allows better accountability and allows groups a chance to guide and direct activities.

Rollie S (AD California Inland) said that closed meetings are not uncommon in other organizations.

Auric M (RD Mexico) also spoke con to the motion, asking if transparency or efficiency was required, and why trusted servants needed to be observed.

Helge B (RD German Speaking) pointed out that the motion would benefit only some locals and is not fair to the global fellowship. The Conference is about trust and this motion is about the opposite.

Motion required a 2/3 majority.

**Motion 6 failed: 51-58-0-2**

A standing vote was requested for Motion 6.

**Vote to have a standing vote on Motion 6 failed: 16-95-0-1**

The maker of Motion 7 declined to present the motion.

**Motion #8**

**To direct NAWS to produce a low-cost paperback English version of the Basic Text which contains only the first ten chapters called “Our Program”.**

*Intent:* To provide a cost effective means to carry our message and fulfill our primary purpose.

*Maker:* OK Region / *Second:* Utah

The maker of Motion 8 declined to speak to the motion.

Franney J (WB Chair) responded to the motion and offered an estimate of the financial impact of approximately one and a half million dollars for the first year.

Blanca C (RD Region Del Coqui) expressed concern and confusion that the Spanish version of the motion in the *Conference Agenda Report* did not contain the word “English.”

Laura responded that the vote would be on the motion as displayed on the overhead.

Sandra M (RD ABCD) said she didn’t think the motion would have a financial impact, but she believed the personal stories were important; some members first get the message through the stories.

Two yellow cards were raised with procedural questions. Don Cameron (WSC Parliamentarian) clarified that Motion 15 was applicable during this session and that the 80/20 rule would apply and limit discussion of motions that had consensus.

Motion required a 2/3 majority.

**Motion 8 failed: 14-95-1-1**

Lunch was taken from 12:40 pm to 2:40 pm.

The next session opened by revisiting Motion 7.

**Motion #7**

**That if there continues to be a WSC Participants Discussion Board on NA.org that it be made accessible to non WSC participants; only for viewing, not posting.**

*Intent:* To allow any interested member to see what our WSC participants are discussing regarding fellowship and world service issues.

*Maker:* Utah Region / *Second:* Connecticut

Russell G (RD Utah) reintroduced the motion and said his region was in favor of it. He explained that he believed if the discussion board was viewable by all, posts would not be shared as they are now.

Franney J (WB Chair) responded by saying the Board’s opinion was offered in the old business discussion session and in the CAR. The Board will follow the will of the WSC.

In response to a participant’s request, Franney reviewed the history of the bulletin board: When the technology changed the board was closed to Conference participants only. Subsequently, at the WSC, delegates supported the bulletin board remaining open only to participants.

Nine yellow cards were raised with questions about the process and the motion itself. In response Laura again stated that motions that create policy require a 2/3 majority, and that it would be possible to have the discussion board viewable as requested by the motion.

Neal S (AD North Carolina) again reiterated that North Carolina and Bluegrass Appalachia share a conscience. He referenced honesty, goodwill, and trust and the Eighth Concept which is built upon communication and integrity. Having a closed board leads to a perception of secrecy. The participants who discussed this issue on the bulletin board were overwhelmingly in favor of it being opened. He suggested that it wasn’t appropriate for an RD voting on this who also doesn’t participate.

Lisa C (RD Pacific Cascade) said that her region voted in favor of this motion as they believe in transparency. However, she was opposed to continuing having our limited resources devoted to something that only ten or twelve people use.

Mitchell S (RD Greater New York) offered a friendly amendment to have the motion be effective for one conference cycle, which should reduce the bar to a majority vote.

The maker and second accepted the amendment.

Amendment required a simple majority:

***Amendment to Motion 7 carried: 67-39-3-2.***

Motion 7 as amended:

**That if there continues to be a WSC Participants Discussion Board on NA.org that it be made accessible to non WSC participants; only for viewing, not posting, on a trial basis for one cycle only.**

In response to a question from a participant, the Parliamentarian said that the motion would be a change in policy even if it was for one cycle only and would still require a 2/3 majority. Jeff P (RD South Florida) asked whether the decision to close the board would be policy since it was made in the Moving Forward session, which is not even business. Franney confirmed that there is no written policy about the board or that created the board. This motion would create policy.

Kim A (AD Central Atlantic) said her region voted in favor of this motion, and it would have helped if she had been able to view the board when she was a second alternate. Many more people read the board than post, and it is a very useful tool.

Two yellow cards were raised to ask how to try something out before making policy. Laura replied that according to the Parliamentarian the motion would create policy.

Discussion continued about whether the motion should require a 2/3 threshold, and the Cofacilitator's decision was appealed.

***Vote to appeal the facilitator: 53-49-3-5—decision upheld***

Motion 7 as amended required a 2/3 majority.

***Motion 7 failed: 59-50-1-1***

Mark H (WB) asked a point of parliamentary inquiry: is there any procedure that can be invoked to stop the madness?

Laura replied that, yes, the body could proceed through the rest of the motions without discussion.

Franney J (WB Chair) added that anything the body wanted to consider could be raised in the Moving Forward session, which has more flexibility than a formal business session.

***Vote to move through the remaining motions without discussion carried: 76-35-0-0***

In response to six yellow cards, Dickie and Don Cameron (WSC Parliamentarian) clarified that yellow cards would still be recognized, no pros or cons would be heard, motions would still be presented and could be amended, and new business would not be affected.

***Motion 9 was presented and died for lack of a second.***

***Motion 10 was presented and died for lack of second.***

***Motion #11***

**To allow a delegate from any Zonal Forum who requests it to be seated at the WSC as a non-voting participant. The expense of attendance will be the responsibility of the Zonal Forum and not the WSC.**

*Intent:* To involve zones at the WSC.

*Maker:* Western Russia Region / *Second:* Finland

Maria K (AD Western Russia) asked to amend the motion to read something like “on a trial basis for one cycle only to allow a delegate from any zonal forum who requests it to be seated at the WSC 2018 as a non-voting participant. The expense of attendance will be the responsibility of the zonal forum and not the WSC.”

Amendment seconded by Ken F (RD Arizona)

Maria K (AD Western Russia) spoke to the motion and said if the Conference wants to solve the seating dilemma, it will have to go through some growing pains and step out of its

comfort zone. Sometimes money has to be spent. She closed with a quote from “Guiding Principles” about fear. We fear that we have the ability to destroy NA. If something particular happens—if we take this action or pass that motion or even listen to a scary idea—NA will die. Our experience shows us that NA is strong enough to withstand our growing pains.”

Franney J (WB Chair) asked to clarify that “one conference cycle” means “2018 WSC,” and that a clear understanding of what a zone is and what makes up a zone was missing.

In response to three yellow cards, Dickie and the motion maker confirmed that the motion related to the 2018 WSC and was not about seating a voting participant, applied to currently existing zones, and that changes to the motions would be approved by the body.

Amendment requires a simple majority.

***Amendment to Motion 11 carried: 84-22-3-1***

*Motion #11 as amended*

**To allow a delegate from any currently existing Zonal Forum who requests it to be seated at the WSC 2018 as a non-voting participant for one conference only. The expense of attendance will be the responsibility of the Zonal Forum and not the WSC.**

The motion required a 2/3 majority.

***Initial vote on Motion 11 failed: 72-35-3-1 [the motion was later reconsidered]***

Several participants raised yellow cards, to clarify who seconded the motion, to express disappointment in the outcome, and to ask if Motion 11 can be reconsidered as amended.

Franney J (WB Chair) spoke to the request for a revote and said that as there is such a significant majority the body may want to bring the idea up in the Moving Forward session, but as long as sessions are postponed by the length of the Old Business session these discussions were difficult to have.

Four yellow cards were raised to ask for a break, to ask for a roll call vote or revote, and to question the number of votes cast.

Dickie explained that a request for a roll call vote would need to come after any initial revote on the motion, and that in order to reconsider the motion one of the 35 participants who voted no to Motion 11 would need to ask the body to do so.

Don Cameron (WSC Parliamentarian) explained that 110 votes were cast (and one present not voting). A motion needing a 2/3 majority would need 74 votes, and the motion only received 72.

A break was taken from 4:45 pm to 5:10 pm.

After the break Dickie asked if anyone on the “no” side of the vote wished to ask for a reconsideration of Motion 11. Mitchell S (RD Greater New York) said he abstained in the vote and would like to make a motion to reconsider Motion 11. This was seconded by James B (RD Tri-State).

***Motion to reconsider Motion 11 carried: 81-22-1-3***

***Motion 11 carried: 72-29-2-4***

In response to another yellow card asking whether new information needed to be brought up for a motion to be reconsidered and whether it was debatable, Dickie stated that the body made an agreement to dispense with discussion of motions and the Cofacilitators were trying to honor that agreement.

*Motion #12*

**That Narcotics Anonymous World Services add the following “What is NA Service” card as part of the Group Readings offered by the World Service Office.**

What is NA Service?

This is a very important integrant of our recovery, this is how our gratitude speaks, yet this is a way to carry the message of recovery to those addicts who still suffer. We usually begin being of service in NA making coffee/tea or cleaning our rooms after meetings. As we get some experience serving at the group level, many of us try ourselves out at a different point of service structure, for instance, - area or region.

Being of service in NA is for any of us. True service can be expressed by simple words quoted from the Basic Text: «True service is "doing the right things for the right reasons"» .

Being of service at a group level helps to strengthen the very foundation of our recovery because it could probably be the first time when we something for others without seeking to profit, expecting nothing in return. Serving at a group is another motive that helps us to attend meetings regularly. And our experience tells us that those who keep coming back regularly stay clean.

Being of service in NA is our gratitude to the Fellowship of Narcotics Anonymous for a new clean life. Many of us always wanted to be "a part of something". Service in NA indeed gives us a chance to become a part of a fellowship that saves our lives and helps addicts all over the world to stay clean and follow the way of recovery.

*Intent:* To provide NA groups with an approved piece of literature to use as a tool to foster a culture of getting involved into service.

*Maker:* Western Russia Region / *Second:* Sweden

Franney J (WB Chair) stated that the Board did not necessarily oppose the motion, but typically our readings come from NA-approved literature. The Board would prefer to evaluate the results of the literature survey rather than adopting something created in one community.

Maria K (AD Western Russia) spoke to the motion and added that almost every meeting in Russia reads this.

The motion required a 2/3 majority.

**Motion 12 failed: 30-79-1-0**

*Motion #13*

**Each World Board member votes only in Elections and may make motions in all sessions. The World Board has one collective vote (made by the Chairperson of the World Board) in new business sessions.**

*Intent:* This motion would change World Board voting in new business from (up to) 18 individual votes to one collective vote.

*Makers:* South Florida, Michigan, and Mid-Atlantic Regions / *Second:* New Jersey

The makers declined to speak to motion.

Franney J (WB Chair) restated that the Board does not support the motion.

The motion required a 2/3 majority.

**Motion 13 failed: 47-58-3-2**

*Motion #14*

**That the World Board or members of the World Board no longer make motions or proposals for decision at the WSC. The World Board may still forward ideas or work that regional delegates may present as a motion or proposal to the WSC for a decision.**

*Intent:* To remove the ability of the World Board and World Board Members to make motions or proposals in old business or new business at the WSC.

*Maker:* Mid-Atlantic Region / *Second:* Arkansas

The maker declined to speak to the motion.

Franney J (WB Chair) restated that the Board does not support the motion.

The motion required a 2/3 majority.

**Motion 14 failed: 16-91-0-1**

Julio F (RD Uruguay) appealed the facilitator as he was absent and didn't give his remote to his alternate for Motions 12, 13, and 14 so his region didn't vote.

Laura said that this was not an appeal to the facilitator so it was not an appropriate use of the yellow card.

Old business was completed at 5:52 pm.

## HRP REPORT

7:43 pm–9:17 pm

Led by Lib E, David J, and Michael B (HRP members)

### Introduction

Lib E (HRP) opened the session with a moment of silence and the Serenity Prayer. HRP members—Lib, Sherry V, David J, and Michael B—introduced themselves. Lib turned the session over to Michael B who previewed the topics to be covered:

- An overview of the nominations process
- A discussion of elections
- A question and answer session

### Nominations process

Michael reviewed the four phases of the nominations process:

1. Membership in the World Pool

In mid-September 2015, 557 members were in the pool. Each of these members was sent a form containing some basic questions, including:

- Do you have an NA sponsor? If no, please elaborate.
- Have you worked all Twelve Steps of NA? If no, please elaborate.
- Do you attend NA meetings on a regular basis? Please identify what you consider to be a regular basis. If no, please elaborate.

The 353 members who addressed these three questions and had a minimum of eight years clean met the criteria for further consideration. Of these, 44 indicated an interest in being considered as candidates when contacted by the HRP.

2. HRP blind scoring

The blind scoring process starts with the creation of a Candidate Profile Report for each interested member. CPRs omit identifying details and compile responses on service and leadership.

All HRP members scored each CPR individually. Each section has a relative weight:

- Recovery questions approximately 7%
- Service experience approximately 24%
- Life experience and service preference approximately 5% each
- General questions account for about 60%

Potential candidates with the highest scoring CPRs moved forward in the process. As in previous cycles, a natural break in the scores occurred. This cycle the break appeared at around 75%. The eleven members who scored above that break moved forward in the process.

Concurrent to the blind scoring process, the HRP received 25 recommendations from regions, the Board, and zonal forums. The leadership and service experience of these RBZ candidates was compiled and scored in the same way that occurred for World Pool

candidates. Blind scoring did not affect whether RBZ candidates moved on to the interview phase, but was done simply to provide the HRP with comparable information.

Similarly, the HRP contacted home service committees of the traditional (non-RBZ) candidates to gain local perspectives on those candidates. Each responded to the same three questions that were answered about RBZ candidates in the nomination process.

### 3. Candidate interviews and reference checks (included Pool and RBZ candidates)

All 36 candidates were interviewed using an online platform. All four members of the HRP participated in nearly all candidate interviews; exceptions were made when real or perceived conflicts of interest (spouse, sponsee, etc.) existed.

In addition, the HRP interviewed two to three references for each candidate. Many, many people made themselves available for this process.

### 4. Final HRP nominations

The scores were tabulated and the final list of nominees was ranked. Typically, those with the highest scores move on, explained Michael. To ensure that the final list of HRP nominees represented the most qualified candidates, the HRP discussed each candidate thoroughly taking all information into account. The final nominees were contacted and published in the *Conference Report*, and all other participants were thanked for their willingness.

Without discussing individual nominees, Michael explained that the strongest candidates demonstrated

- a World Service “perspective” (through service as a delegate or as a workgroup member, for example) and a familiarity with the current work of NAWS,
- complete and focused answers to all questions, and
- supportive references, preferably with a variety of perspectives, proved helpful in many cases as well.

## ***Elections discussion***

Lib described some of the factors that affect election outcomes and the implications for elections at WSC 2016:

- The nominee-to-seat ratio:
  - When the number of nominees far exceeds the number of seats, it results in votes being spread out among a greater number of nominees. Historically, this has resulted in fewer candidates meeting the 60% threshold for election to the Board and fewer seats being filled.
  - At WSC 2016, we had 16 nominees for World Board and ten vacant seats.
- The number of votes each Conference participant casts:
  - Data from previous WSCs reveal that vacancies persist when participants choose to vote for fewer candidates than open seats. Given this trend, the HRP suggested that participants vote for at least ten candidates for WB, equivalent to the number of vacant seats.
- The potential impact of Motion 2:
  - The HRP’s work was not affected by Motion 2, and it was clarified during Q&A that Motion 2 decisions, including the decision to reduce the size of the World Board, will not take effect until the 2018 Conference.

In conclusion, Lib reminded us that Conference participants have options in elections. Participants may opt to:

- vote in favor for any number of nominees
- vote against any number of nominees (no vote is a “no” vote)

- refrain from returning a ballot, reducing the number needed to seat nominees

### **Thoughts on the World Pool**

David J concluded the presentation by offering some of the HRP's thoughts on the World Pool. He suggested that these may serve as a starting place for discussion about the Pool's form and function:

- The active World Pool membership has dropped from approximately 1000 to 500.
- The HRP thinks that the World Pool does not function as originally intended and wonders whether it serves the current needs of the Conference.
- He clarified that HRP members are not involved in selection of workgroup members.

### **Q&A**

The floor was opened for questions. Responses reiterated some previously-reported information and offered some additional clarifications including:

- English is the language for the Conference and the Board. A strong command of the English language is necessary for consideration as a Board member.
- Although the current HRP suggested a review of the World Pool's function, they declined to recommend a particular process for, or specific outcomes from, such a review.
- Participants expressed concerns about what disqualifies nominees from making it through the HRP process. The HRP reiterated the qualities of the strongest candidates and recommended that interested nominees should read and study the materials in preparation for interviews with the HRP if they want to be successful.
- The Board forwarded candidates they believe will fill any gaps in skills and experience from members rolling off the Board. David J (HRP) explained that much of the Board's role is to present information and gather ideas and the slate of candidates represents the necessary diversity and skills.
- Opportunities to view video resumes or to conduct Q&A with Board nominees live during the Conference, as suggested by one participant, would be logistically challenging. The WSC is free to pursue these ideas nonetheless.
- It was asked whether all nominees for the World Board needed to be on a list of "shining stars" in the Fellowship. David J (HRP) stated that he was not aware of such a list, and this is not part of the HRP process.
- The reduced size of the World Pool may be attributed to people not updating and submitting their forms, possibly because they have not been utilized.

### **Closing**

At the end of the session, Dickie D (WSC CF) explained that there was a challenge to a nomination and it has been resolved using the process outlined in *GWSNA*. Each voting participant was given an addendum to be handed back with the rest of the CPR materials after the election Thursday. The session ended at 9:17 pm.

# **Wednesday, 27 April 2016**

## **FUTURE OF THE WSC 1**

*Time: 9:00 am–10:36 am*

*Led by Arne H-G (WB) and Mary B (WB)*

### **Historical perspective**

Mary B (WB) explained that this session and the subsequent breakout sessions build on conversations at WSC 2014 and aim to clarify direction on issues related to seating. She

reminded participants that this topic has a long history, much of which was documented in the *Conference Report*. Taken together, the documents linked in that piece represent hundreds of hours spent trying to maximize the diversity and effectiveness of the WSC.

She went on to share her own perspective on the WSC's evolution, illustrating the nature of our growth in the eighties with a few stories. Mary recalled instances when two members from Texas were seated as delegates and the region was formed after the fact; when Ireland was seated but lacked actual representation; and when being able to pay for travel was an unwritten requirement to serve as a delegate to the Conference.

In 1985, successful outreach resulted in delegates from five or six NA communities outside the US attending the Conference. The value of a more diverse perspective quickly became apparent and the WSC began to discuss funding delegate travel. Ultimately, the Conference elected to fund delegates' travel, removing a major obstacle to participation. This increased both the geographic diversity of participants and the size of the Conference. Concerns developed that growth was having a negative impact on the WSC's effectiveness as a decision-making body.

Mary stated her opinion that regions need to undertake their own inventory process at this point to explore whether coming to the Conference is the best use of regional resources and ask if the WSC is still serving the region. Mary explained that breakout discussions in small groups at WSC 2014 all agreed that a smaller conference would be more effective. These discussions also revealed an emerging consensus about reducing our numbers through some form of zonal seating. Further, the breakouts reflected a need for more work in order to consider, among other things, how zones currently operate and whether zones—as currently configured or otherwise—might become part of the delegation stream. She mentioned that a workgroup had spent the cycle grappling with some of these issues and emphasized that the upcoming breakouts were designed to get further input.

With that in mind, Mary noted that the objective of this session is to set up the two breakouts on the schedule. We will conduct polls on some options for change, have the opportunity to discuss the options, and develop materials for local consideration.

### **Background of topic**

Arne H-G (WB) reviewed the following:

- The numbers reveal NA's success and the WSC's dilemma:
  - WSC 1986: 45 seated regions present, six of which were from outside the US
  - WSC 2016: 112 seated regions present, 47 of which were from outside the US
  - At WSC 2014 we had 194 RDs and ADs. Today there's a potential for 232.
- We have agreed on a discussion-based conference and it's not possible with a body this size. That surely must be clear to everyone sitting here today considering how we did over the last few days. It's not bad, Arne said, it just is what it is. It's not possible to discuss issues, effectively develop thinking, and hear from everyone in a body this size. The only solution is to do breakout sessions. Because we are 24 hours behind, we may have to cut some of these sessions.
- It costs roughly \$500,000 to hold a WSC of this size. Approximately two-thirds of this is covered by NAWS, with the remainder paid for by regions. These are funds that might otherwise be used for PR, FD, or other purposes.

A strategy for reducing our size has eluded us to date. This and subsequent "Future" sessions aim to build on previous work and move the conversation forward.

### **WSC 2014 and 2014-2016 cycle**

Arne provided a brief summary of the breakout sessions conducted at WSC 2014 and the work accomplished between then and now. Input gathered in the 2014 sessions "The Needs

of NA” and “Why We Gather” was compiled in two mind maps. Additional breakouts explored options for the future and the topic of “Where Do We Go from Here?” There were no decisions, but astonishingly similar themes that seemed to point to some form of zonal seating emerged from throughout the Conference. It felt like we had moved the dial some toward a more mutual sense of understanding.

Delegates asked the Board for materials to support local communication efforts. In response, NAWS collected and compiled information on the role of zones and produced a slideshow and video on the future of the WSC, which concluded by posing three questions:

- Do you agree with the WSC discussion results that seemed to favor some form of zonal seating?
- Would another form of seating be better—SNP? Continental? Something else?
- What can we do to ensure an effective and sustainable WSC in the future?

Arne explained that participants would be polled to get a sense of where the body stands at present, and the results from polls will shape subsequent breakouts at WSC 2016.

Before the polling, a participant spoke out objecting to the discussion and asking why the body was focusing on such a relatively small portion of the budget and not examining other parts of World Services. Mary said that she was going to proceed with the session and not take questions at this time.

### **Straw polls**

#### **Poll #1: Who has had these conversations with your region?**

**Response: 82 Yes, 29 No**

In response to questions from a couple of participants, Arne clarified that the question was basically asking if participants have workshopped any of these issues.

Next, Mary said, we will ask you to choose what you see as the option for the future: The next question is about what you see as options for the future.

Here are the options we see:

- No change.
- No change in representation, but other changes such as delegates-only at WSC.
- Zonal seating (whether current zones or something else).
- Some other basis for change in representation such as state/nation/province, etc.

In response to participant requests, the examples in three of the bullets were cut (see below). Mary explained that each participant was asked just to choose one option because there was not enough time to poll each option separately, but participants could talk about as many ideas as they wished to in their breakouts.

#### **Poll #2: Which option seems most appealing to your region or you?**

Response:

- No change: **20 (18.3%)**
- No change in representation, but other changes: **22 (20.2%)**
- Zonal seating: **45 (41.3%)**
- Some other basis for change in representation: **22 (20.2%)**

Topics receiving more than 20% in the second of two polls were taken up by table groups in a breakout session that followed.

Mary apologized because there was no time for questions and answers. She let participants know that she and Arne would stay behind to answer questions after the session.

## FIPT & LITERATURE DISCUSSION

11:04 am–12:47 pm

Led by Anthony E (NAWS ED)

### Introduction

Anthony E (NAWS ED) began by assuring participants this is not a conversation he especially wanted to have, but it is necessary because the WSC is the trustor in the *FIPT*. We are addressing three primary topics today, Anthony said:

- Illicit literature
- Registering groups who use non NA-approved literature (gray books)
- ASCs / RSCs posting recovery literature

These topics will be further discussed in breakout sessions. Today we hope to create a frame of reference for those further discussions, and we're going to ask you to consider some very specific questions.

### Illicit literature

The term "illicit literature," Anthony explained, in this instance, refers to a document that blends material from different Basic Text editions and has never been approved by the Fellowship in this form. These texts are being distributed inside and outside of NA.

The early 90s were very difficult times for us, said Anthony. There was a lawsuit against an NA member that resulted in a mutually agreed-upon judgement. The Conference's decisions about implementing that judgment ultimately led to the creation of the *Fellowship Intellectual Property Trust*, a set of rules regarding the publishing and distribution of NA literature. At the time, we hoped that the *FIPT* would help bring about some shared understanding and unity around the issue and a standard by which everyone would try to work together as we move forward.

This activity didn't end in the past until the Fellowship ended it. When these types of behaviors aren't acceptable at your meetings, they stop. No number of cease and desist letters will stop it. We're at our wit's end, said Anthony. This is why we're asking the conference for some guidance on this. To be clear: we are not, under any circumstances, suggesting that any NA member should be threatened if they are participating in this activity, but there has to be some way that we as a Fellowship can get this activity to stop.

The 1991 WSC issued a statement (see text box on the following page) that sets out what we as a fellowship believe. The Fellowship's conscience regarding this issue has been repeatedly reaffirmed. We either have to be willing to stand by our Fellowship's conscience or not, said Anthony. We will pose the question to this body at the end of this session. If we don't still agree with this conscience, we need to say so. You will have an opportunity to discuss this in your breakout sessions.

### Gray Form

Anthony then went on to address the issue of registering groups who use the Gray Form. NA World Services has a custodial responsibility to maintain group contact information, he explained, partly because of the rules the *FIPT* outlines to change the Twelve Steps, Traditions, and Concepts. Groups are not required to register with NAWS. Some have managed to get registered with a name like the "gray group," and recently we have had groups specifically identify themselves as intending to utilize the Gray Form. The Gray Form is a developmental draft of the Basic Text that was significantly changed before the final approval version of the Basic Text was published.

*The Group Booklet* includes six very specific points about what is an NA group as well as a paragraph that talks about using Fellowship-approved literature as one of the base criteria for being an NA group. For us, said Anthony, the six points plus the other information in

*The Group Booklet* provide some standardized guidance on how to deal with the registration of an NA group.

We believe that the three registrations we received from groups that clearly indicate that they intend to use the Gray Form did not conform to the points in *The Group Booklet*, and so we held them until we could talk with you and get additional guidance from the WSC.

### **1991 WSC New Business**

The voting participants of the 1991 World Service Conference, after much discussion and consideration of several motions, voted to issue the following statement to the fellowship:

“The Basic Text, Fifth Edition, is the only edition of the Basic Text that is currently approved by the World Service Conference of Narcotics Anonymous for publication and sale. The World Service Office Board of Directors is entrusted with the responsibility for protecting the fellowship's physical and intellectual properties, including the Basic Text, and at the board of directors' discretion, shall take legal action to protect those rights against any and all persons who choose to infringe upon this literature trust.”

WSC 2008 approved the Sixth Edition Basic Text. It is now the only edition approved for NAWS production with the exceptions called out in the Translations Policy.

*“Significant WSC Actions and Amendments to A Guide to World Services in NA” GWSNA*

### **ASCs/RSCs**

There is another issue we have to consider, Anthony said, and that's ASCs and RSCs that post NA literature. When we contact service bodies about literature posted online, most are very agreeable. The book-length pieces are the items that we ask communities to remove. We still have IPs and booklets posted online, and we simply ask that the websites link to those postings on na.org. Most NA communities to remove the books when we ask. However, some refuse to remove the material. It's simple when people outside of NA post our literature—we contact the ISP, we demonstrate the Fellowship's ownership of the intellectual property, and most ISPs will shut them down. We don't want to be in the position of shutting down Fellowship websites, but we have a dilemma about what to do if the service committee will not remove the material. This is one of the questions we are going to poll you about.

### **Q&A**

In response to questions, Anthony said we know of approximately 26 to 27 regions where illicit literature is being distributed, and it's spreading. It was primarily in North America but now there are two regions in the APF, a few in Latin America, and at least one region in Africa. The latest count for service body websites that have literature posted is approximately 12 to 15.

#### **Legal opinion**

In one of the first questions, Anthony was asked for a copy of the legal opinion that says there are actions by the trustor that can impair the property of the trust. Anthony responded that we don't want to compromise the Fellowship's position if we should end up in adverse legal circumstances, and so there are things that won't be publically released. The last time he presented information about this issue on the floor of the WSC, it was sent to the people involved within minutes, Anthony explained. The reason the conversation about service committees posting NA material was prioritized is because there's no reservation about shutting down a website or issuing a cease and desist order in a situation outside the Fellowship, but it's different when we are talking about members of NA.

### **Ideas for breakout discussions**

Several participants raised issues that Anthony suggested could be discussed in the breakout sessions as possible next steps if others agree, including polling the Fellowship as a whole on the issues; creating some sort of mechanism for continued dialogue among regions, NAWS, and members; and having NAWS sit down with the main people involved to bring about a solution. One delegate suggested only registering groups that use literature produced by NAWS without making a judgment about whether or not they were NA groups.

Several delegates emphasized the need for a spiritual solution, and said they believed taking groups off meeting lists was a temporary solution that often just increased alienation.

### **Use of non-NA literature in groups**

Much of the Q&A discussion centered on how to deal with groups that use material that is not NA-approved literature and whether those groups should be registered. One participant asked for a definition of “non-approved” literature and Anthony explained that we use *The Group Booklet* as a measure and perhaps the description there needs to be stronger. Another participant asked if it would be possible to expand on the booklet’s six points that define a group, and Anthony said anything the Conference decides is feasible.

Participants raised concerns that, when talking about possibly taking groups off meeting lists, we recognize the distinction between groups that use locally developed material, such as a clarity statement, and groups that use illicit material. In response to a related question, Anthony clarified that literature developed within a group bearing the NA logo can be used with that group, but if it is posted online or distributed outside the group they would be considered illicit.

Other participants cautioned that we shouldn’t be put in the position of determining who is and isn’t an NA group; neither NAWS nor local ASCs and RSCs should be in that position. Anthony reiterated that these types of concerns are another reason that shared guidance is important to us all.

### **Local challenges**

Many participants shared about local struggles they are having with these issues. Some asked for help from NAWS in talking to the people involved. Others wanted strategies for how to deal with the issue locally.

One delegate shared about the challenges in his country with illicit literature being published by non-NA members and sold at a cheaper price. All of the trademarks and copyrights have been registered and they are trying to create awareness that groups and service bodies should only use Fellowship-approved material, but it is a challenge. We have never made money more important than the availability of literature, said Anthony, and those who have received subsidized literature know that. Anthony assured the delegate that World Services would work with them to resolve the problem.

### **NA literature on local websites**

The concern was raised that websites in general contain the most up-to-date meeting information. How do we protect the literature without compromising access to meetings? Anthony said, that’s exactly why we’re having this discussion.

### **Gratitude for the conversation**

Several participants expressed appreciation for the session. Some said they are struggling locally with the issues and the chance to have open discussion is welcome. We need to move towards love, said one participant; the old guard needs to show the newer participants here how to move forward. There’s got to be some spiritual solution, said several delegates.

## Straw polls

Anthony E polled delegates on several questions. He explained that these polls were to help frame the small-group discussions, not to make binding decisions.

Question One: Do we believe that the Fellowship still affirms the rules we have agreed on in the *FIPT*?

**Results: 96-5**

Question Two: Should we register and list on the meeting locator NA groups that clearly intend to use material that is not NA-Fellowship approved?

**Results: 28-78.**

Question Three: Should we take action to remove NA recovery literature from ASC/RSC sites, even if it means shutting down the site (this may require ongoing action if a new one is created)? Anthony clarified: typically when we contact ISPs to let them know that there is an infringement on a site they host, they will shut down the entire websites.

**Results: 75-31.**

Anthony thanked participants, and Franney J (WB Chair) reminded them that new business proposals need to be clear and succinct so that they can be translated.

The session closed at 12:47 pm, and the Conference spent lunch and the afternoon hours at a nearby park.

## NAWS REPORT

6:03 pm–9:13 pm

Led by Anthony E (NAWS ED) and Franney J (WB Chair)

Anthony E (NAWS ED) began by saying that *A Guide to World Services in Narcotics Anonymous* identifies NAWS' basic purposes as "communication, coordination, information, and guidance." Everything we do is tethered to the Vision Statement, said Anthony.

Fellowship requests are sometimes demanding and are prioritized based on what our vision asks us to do. NAWS is a global enterprise with many things happening all around the world at any given time. NA World Services, Inc. is two companies in one: a literature publisher and a service organization. We can't be easily compared to other organizations. Many decisions we make aren't good for our bottom line, but help meet our spiritual aims.

### **Getting literature to a worldwide Fellowship**

Around the world, roughly 35% of our materials are distributed through regional service offices or distribution centers, said Anthony. We are in the process of reevaluating our literature distribution system and are taking a look at all contracts and agreements. Our bottom line is to make literature available to the global Fellowship at the most reasonable price possible. Our pricing policy is based on what makes sense for each community.

Anthony talked about the importance of ensuring that NA corporations are answerable to the service bodies that created them as discussed in Tradition Nine. A legal piece of paper stating you are a corporation does not relieve you of the spiritual responsibility to those that elected you, he said. Anthony urged members to share any local experience with these issues because we may develop a service resource about this at some point.

Some employee photos from global offices were shown on the screen, including the Iran office that distributes as much of some inventory items as the rest of the entire world, and the distribution center in India that has helped to stabilize literature operations there.

NAWS also supports workshops and other activities to the greatest extent possible when requested. We can't be everywhere, but there is great value in collaborating. NAWS developed a strategic plan, for instance, and that process was taken on elsewhere to help coordinate services. He mentioned the importance of the Canadian Zone's success translating IP #1 in

Inuktitut as a result of their planning process. All of the services NAWS helps with, including PR in Egypt and H&I in Brazil, are a part of our vision in action.

### **Publications**

Anthony then provided an overview of the NAWS' periodicals, including some subscription numbers:

- *NA Way*: 26,454
- Reaching Out: 13,546
- NAWS News: 22,251

He reminded participants that *The NA Way* database will be purged again, requiring people who are subscribed to both the electronic and paper versions to resubscribe if they want to continue to receive paper copies. WSC-specific publications include the *Conference Agenda Report*, Conference Approval Track, and *Conference Report*.

Anthony also gave figures for e-lit sales since publication (just over 31,000 for all five titles combined), NA Meetings search app downloads (nearly 300,000), and the NA Recovery Companion downloads (2,174 in the first four months).

### **Technology**

NAWS takes a deliberately conservative approach to IT, Anthony explained, but we are finally changing our accounting software. He also talked about NAWS' use of webinars, web meeting technology, and virtual workgroups, thanked participants on the Conference participant webinars, and encouraged the sending of ideas about how those tools can be better utilized.

### **Translations**

Translation needs always outstrip resources. Rather than this being a negative thing, it actually means there are more people reaching into more communities. Anthony provided a list of some of the highlights of recent translations projects reaching completion, including Cree, Zulu, Swahili, Chinese, Vietnamese, and Thai.

### **WCNA**

Anthony shared about the challenges related to WCNA 36 and complimented the support workgroup in Brazil as some of the hardest-working members he had ever seen. The Board is committed to reevaluating the model that is in use for WCNA, he said. We have heard your requests for more information in financial reports, and we will try to consider them moving forward.

For the next international convention, it is difficult to predict the stability of a location accessible to NA members in Iran, so some type of backup plan will be in place for the convention in 2021. A decision on this will be made in the next year to year and a half.

### **Finances**

The Business Plan Workgroup will be reconstituted in this cycle to reevaluate the literature distribution system, and to start looking at forecasting and sustainability in light of the reduced income trend.

Anthony shared that many NA members have sent literature into developing communities, and those communities have sometimes contacted NAWS and asked for this to stop. The needs and self-confidence of communities around the world should be respected. Anthony also spoke about changing economic realities such as fluctuating exchange rates which can make literature distribution more difficult in some communities.

### **Projects, workgroups, and IDTs**

Franney reviewed the projects and workgroups from the last cycle. The Traditions Project resulted in the draft of "Guiding Principles" just approved by the Conference. The Service

System project has provided support and held web meetings for communities implementing the ideas. WSC Decision Making had a hybrid of face-to-face and virtual meetings, and their work is reflected in the “Rules and Tools” we have been using. Planning our Future was one of three virtual workgroups that helped to lay some of the groundwork for our discussions at this Conference. Delegate Sharing was another virtual workgroup that resulted in the sessions on Saturday and Sunday. The WSC Seating workgroup came together virtually to assist in evaluating seating requests. We’ve learned we need a balance when using technology for workgroups, said Franney. Virtual groups seem most successful when they have a narrowly defined task. In some cases we need to meet face-to-face.

She also reviewed the internal workgroups used by the Board during the last cycle, including the WCNA, the WB Values, and a workgroup to frame discussions on WSC seating.

The Fellowship Issue Discussions for this cycle included Welcoming All Members, Group Support, Planning, and the Role of Zones. Franney thanked those who participated in discussing these topics.

### ***Strategic planning***

Franney said that an entire session had been scheduled in order to try to partner with the Conference participants to talk about how to better collaborate on the planning process, but this session had to be cancelled due to time constraints. Franney reviewed some of the proposed ideas for collaborating in the planning process. If your community would like to provide input to the strategic plan, the best time to send that is around September, said Franney; so you’d want to do a local scan in July or August. In late 2017 we could distribute a draft of the plan for RD input before the plan is released in the CAT in January 2018.

### ***RBZ candidates***

A fair amount of time goes into the Board’s effort to forward candidates for consideration to be nominated, Franney said, but those RBZ candidates have about a 50-50 chance of being elected. The purpose of the RBZ process was to give the Board an opportunity to identify needs and see if candidates could be put forward who fit those needs, as well as helping understand the wishes of the regions. The hours spent on RBZ recommendations could be used on other things if it’s not useful.

### ***Conference participant discussion board***

Franney said that if the discussion board is useful, we can use it, and if it’s not, let’s not use it. The World Board leaves it up to the Conference to decide.

### ***CAR survey results***

Franney reviewed some of the *CAR* survey results (see Appendix G). The combined results of the two meditation books indicates the Fellowship as a whole is interested in a meditation book. The IP or pamphlet results indicate that the Fellowship as a whole would like a piece on mental health. Franney encouraged local literature committees to begin providing front-end input in advance of creating a workgroup if this is something the Conference supports. Service material responses indicate the priorities are group and local tools and tools for events. We will talk through the Issue Discussion Topics during Moving Forward.

### ***Challenge to bylaws***

Franney apologized for a misstatement in the *Conference Report*. We reported that there had been a challenge about the bylaws and the Executive Director’s role in working with the Board. However, the question was not to our bylaws, but to our practice.

The conference took a break from 7:32 pm to 7:50 pm

### ***Q&A***

For the remaining 80 minutes, Anthony and Franney answered participants’ questions.

### **Free & subsidized lit—how to assist other communities**

One participant asked for more detail about challenges associated with members sending literature into other countries. Anthony offered an example: Sometimes well-intentioned people may send a machine-created translation to a group of members in a new community who may know nothing about the practice of the NA program. Someone else in the community may have gotten a copy of the same piece of literature from World Services, but it says something completely different. Members and groups can end up arguing over which piece of literature is valid, instead of spending their energy carrying the message. If we don't understand the culture of a place, we can create problems we never intended, Anthony said.

Several other participants asked questions about free and subsidized literature amounts, and how zones and regions might help meet needs. Anthony explained that, out of respect for communities, we do not provide a listing of who receives free and subsidized literature. Some regions do directly help other communities. However, Anthony cautioned, literature is power in many communities and sending resources directly can create unintended consequences. Communities that wish to provide direct support to other communities can contact NAWS and we can try to connect you with local members.

The delegate from Sweden reminded the body that well-established regions can “sponsor” other regions, as Sweden has with Poland, including sharing translations experience and helping to fund service efforts such as putting literature in prisons.

### **Literature distribution**

The delegate from the Brazil Sul Region thanked Anthony for the Portuguese translations at the Conference and asked whether NAWS might consider making the multi-regional service office in Brazil a branch office of World Services. Currently in Brazil we spend much time discussing figures he said, and we'd like to spend this time carrying the message. Anthony responded that geographic boundaries would make that type of arrangement particularly difficult. We have studied the possibility of a Latin American service office in the past, he said, and this is the sort of question that will fall within our evaluation of the literature distribution system. Decisions must be made based on the need of the broader community.

Another participant asked whether zones might eventually be a part of the literature distribution process. Franney responded that many zones do not currently have the administrative or financial means to be able to take on literature distribution, nor would many want that task.

### **Production costs**

One participant was interested to know the actual cost of various literature items in order to find out how much revenue is generated from literature sales. Anthony responded that the *NAWS Annual Report* contains that type of information, and if greater detail is desired, members can email the office with specific questions.

### **Warehouse space**

A couple of questions were asked about the additional warehouse space NAWS is leasing. Anthony explained that we have a three-year lease on a 13,000 square foot space behind the WSO in Chatsworth. We have been able to consolidate material that we had been storing offsite and eliminate that expense as well as offset shipping inconsistencies and reduce the number of backorders. When asked whether the additional warehouse space would allow for the production of decades clean keytags, Anthony reminded the body that warehouse space was not the primary objection to creating that inventory item.

## **Translations**

One participant asked for further detail regarding translations successes. Anthony responded that NAWS has doubled the number of people and increased financial resources dedicated to translations. We have been working with communities to identify competent translation resources in their own communities. The main issue that can affect translations work is the successful function of the local translation committees. The approximate translation cost from start to finish for a book-length piece is \$10-15,000, and there are about ten book projects in the stream right now. We've come a long way, but we still have a ways to go, said Anthony.

## **Financial health (reserves)**

A participant asked about the status of reserve levels at NAWS. Anthony responded that more detail about the financial picture would take place in the budget session, but he believes our current reserves are in the neighborhood of 43 operating days due to concerted efforts to replenish those reserves.

## **WCNA**

One participant asked whether it might be possible to cancel or reschedule a World Convention if we see there is going to be a problem with something, such as the issue with visas in the case of Brazil. Anthony responded that in this particular case, the liquidated damages would have been similar to the financial loss of holding the event, but we wouldn't have gotten any of the non-financial benefits. We tried to minimize the loss and maximize the advantages, and we learned some lessons

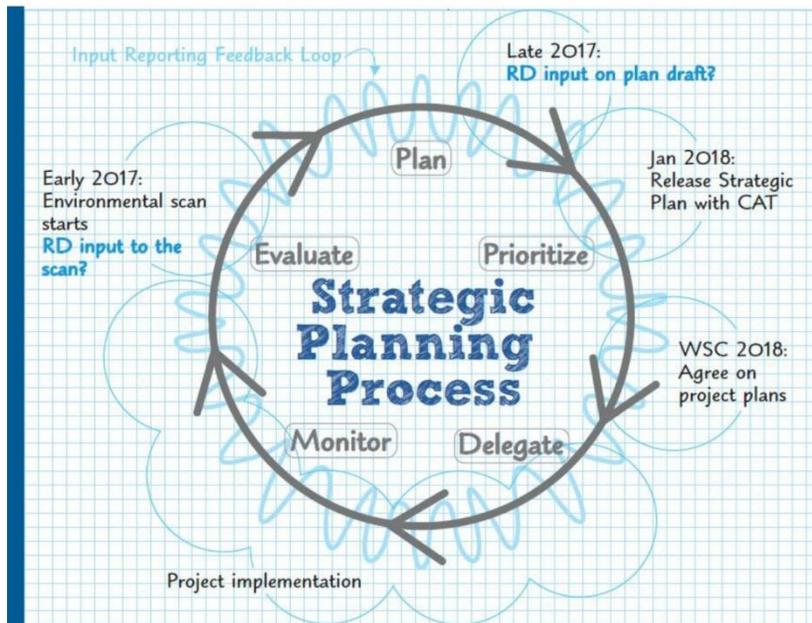
A couple of participants spoke of the successes of WCNA 36, including a delegate from Brazil who expressed gratitude for the Convention and said he knows he speaks for all of Brazil. Much has been said about the financial impact of the Convention, but he wanted to speak to the spiritual side of things. Many newcomers began their recovery at the Convention. Oldtimers came back into service as a result of the Convention. NA in Brazil has grown as a result of WCNA.

One participant asked why the NAWS Report did not mention WCNA 37 in Orlando, and Anthony explained that would happen later in the week.

## **Service System Project**

Several participants asked about the use of ideas from the Service System Project with one mentioning that NAWS has reported some success with the SSP ideas, but regional reports show only one region has group support forums. Franney explained that success is measured by whether community needs are being met and whether communities are growing as a result of implementation. We've seen more collaboration across state boundaries for H&I and other services. We've seen more communities planning. The regional reports have some information, and you can write to us for more. Not all communities keep us updated, but we know that Minnesota and Canada have done some work, for example. A delegate asked how much we have invested in the project, and Anthony said he would have to consult the numbers we have published.

Another participant asked when ideas from the SSP would be incorporated into *A Guide to Local Services in NA*. Franney responded that limited resources at NAWS means we can only accomplish so much work during each Conference cycle. Many of our service materials are outdated, and it's up to the body to decide what to prioritize. In the meantime, all of the materials related to the project are available online at [www.na.org/servicesystem](http://www.na.org/servicesystem) for communities to use as they see fit.



### Strategic planning

One delegate asked about the timeline for regions who want to collaborate with NAWS on the strategic plan. Anthony explained that there are two main ways regions can input the plan—they can submit input to be considered in the scanning process or they can give input on the draft plan before it gets published in the CAT. NAWS will need to give delegates a framework for their input to the scanning process so that we can all be dealing with the same kinds of inquiries.

### Accounting software, paper copies, and app differences (time zones)

In response to a participant's question, Anthony said the target date to implement the new accounting software is 1 September, but more will be revealed.

Another participant requested that NAWS look for ways to develop versions of publications that are easy for members who prefer hard copies to print at home, and Anthony encouraged him to submit the suggestion.

The delegate from Aotearoa New Zealand region asked if there would be a resolution to time-zone challenges with the Recovery Companion app. Anthony acknowledged this sort of challenge is inherent when designing an app for a global Fellowship. As with the *Just for Today* email service, NAWS will try to mitigate this problem.

The session was closed at 9:13 pm.

## Thursday, 27 April 2016

### FUTURE OF THE WSC 2: PUTTING MEAT ON THE BONES

*Time: 9:00 am–10:30 am*

*Breakout Session*

This was the first of two breakout sessions on the Future of the WSC. The goal of the session was to flesh out the options for the future of WSC. One of three options that emerged from the Future of the WSC polls during the session on the previous day was assigned to each table and participants chose from among them. Discussion at each table focused on the questions below

- Option One: No change in representation, but other changes.
  - What can we do to make the WSC more effective and more able to accommodate growth? How can we sustain our current model?
  - What specific ideas do you have for other changes?
- Option Two: Zonal seating

- What specific ideas do you have for zonal seating? Existing zones? Something else? Number of delegates per zone? Ideas for/criteria for future seating of zones that request it?
- Option Three: Some other basis for change in representation
  - What ideas do you have for other models of representation? What are the specifics of that idea?

Each small group reported back the highlights of their discussion, and the top ideas from each table were recorded at the front of the room. After some discussion to clarify ideas and consolidate similar ideas, participants placed a dot next to the two ideas they liked the best. Each room then summarized the results, and discussed them if there was time. A complete list of the items prioritized in the breakout sessions follows in Appendix E.

## FELLOWSHIP DEVELOPMENT AND PUBLIC RELATIONS

*11:08 am–12:45 pm Led by Becky M (NAWS Assistant ED), Jane N (NAWS PR Manager), Tali M (WB), Junior B (WB), and Andrey G (NAWS Staff)*

### **Introduction**

Becky M (NAWS Assistant ED) opened the session and explained that the Fellowship development and public relations sessions were combined into one and significantly shortened due to schedule changes.

### **Fellowship development**

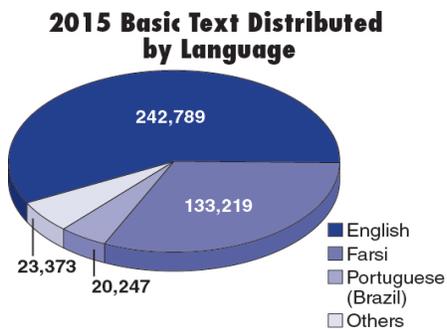
Becky began by emphasizing that A Vision for NA Service is what Fellowship development is all about. She touched on some of the WSC history including the creation of what was eventually called the Development Forum after the non-English speakers walked out of the WSC one year. The Conference used to devote two days to talking about the things that affect our development. Communication, connection, and collaboration are all necessary for effective FD.

NA now speaks 80 languages in our 67,000 weekly meetings. Every ten seconds, somewhere in the world, an NA meeting is reciting the Serenity Prayer. The Basic Text is available in 29 languages. IP #1 is now available in 49 languages, with Amharic, Estonian, Kannada, and Ukrainian being the newest translations. Translations takes more than just money—it requires recovering members who speak the language. NAWS can help, but we can't do it all.

Becky referred to a graph summarizing languages in which NA literature is translated and pointed out that we still have a lot of Fellowship development work to do. The draft regional map (see Appendix I) provides a snapshot of NA today and Becky asked Conference participants to provide updates this week.

### **Public relations**

Jane N (NAWS PR Manager) opened the PR part of the presentation with a public service announcement from Chile. PR is an integral part of Fellowship development, she



*The better known we are by the public, the more likely it is that addicts seeking recovery—or their friends, relatives, or co-workers—will think of us and know where to find us when they decide to seek help.*

It Works: How and Why, "Tradition Eleven"

emphasized, listing some of the ways we find our way to NA—treatment center, prison, general practitioner, and other sources.

### **Professional events**

NAWS attends professional events regularly, including National Association of Drug Court Professionals, which had about 5,000 attendees.

Jane announced that *Reaching Out* is celebrating its thirtieth year. It is slowly becoming a worldwide publication with Japan, Brazil, and Latin American Zonal Forum LTCs translating it. It took 30 years to get NA into institutions in Japan, Jane said, and today meetings in institutions there are growing thanks to the PR efforts of members.

NAWS participated in the American Society of Addiction Medicine in April 2016. Increasing numbers of doctors there want us to change our complete abstinence philosophy, to which we say “no.” Despite this challenge, it was a successful conference because NA was finally invited to their Twelve-Step Recovery Approach Committee meeting, which allowed an open conversation with doctors about common recovery goals.

International events included the International Federation on Non-Governmental Organizations in Malaysia in 2015. Through United Nations efforts, this conference is now more focused on addiction and treatment, particularly because of the mistreatment of addicts in many countries. At the International Society of Addiction Medicine in 2014 in Japan, we met two doctors from Vietnam who work with addicts, and they invited NA World Services to visit Vietnam. We translated some draft informational pamphlets to Vietnamese to share NA information.

An informational video from the Latin American Zonal Forum was shown.

### **Fellowship PR efforts**

Jane showed some slides of a selection of Fellowship PR events

- A program to Chilean drug courts and the presentation of information to a regional commissioner in Tanzania illustrate important efforts to develop relationships with local governments in order to help grow NA.
- Students at University of Illinois are doing PR work on the college campus which helps to reach younger addicts.
- Ukraine PR efforts have included putting the NA helpline number at ATMs.
- A South Africa poster drive in Durban informs community members about NA.
- A professional day during the first Multi-zonal Service Symposium was an example of the collaboration we speak of so often.
- A Connecticut event trained members to address the northeastern US heroin epidemic in town meetings.
- A multiregional event was put on by C&P and Free State regions.
- The State of Oklahoma has approved continuing education units (CEUs) being earned for an NA workshop at a professional event. Sometimes the only way to attract professionals to an event is if CEUs can be earned.

A Russian PSA was shown

### **Membership survey**

With European Delegates Meeting cooperation, we were able to complete a European membership survey this year, Jane said; and in June, EDM representatives will present information about NA to the EU Parliament.

22,803 members responded to the survey, the largest number to date. Jane reviewed some of the data from the membership survey and highlighted some comparisons between the European and general survey including:

- Since 2011 the percentage of males has increased by 4%. It's not clear if the number of women is decreasing or if women just aren't completing the survey.
- The average age of survey respondents is 48.
- Only 6% of US respondents are Hispanic.
- Eighty-five percent of respondents said they have a sponsor, while 42% said they do not sponsor others.
- Service positions responses were similar between the European and worldwide survey.
- One-third of our members still attend other fellowships.
- Primary drugs used are consistent across the two surveys. Opiates are the number one drug used. Second highest used worldwide is cocaine, and in Europe is alcohol.
- On the worldwide survey, under drugs used regularly, 79% reported alcohol.
- Respondents who have relapsed since their beginning of recovery in NA was 38%; this has decreased by 3% since the 2013 survey.
- Worldwide, the most common influence to attend NA is treatment centers. In the European survey, 25% identified NA members, and 20% indicated treatment centers as their source of influence.
- Influences to stay continues to be dominated by identification with other members.
- More than half of respondents (52%) are taking some form of medication: medical maintenance and mental health issues (22%) are the largest number of reasons cited for this.

### ***Fellowship development***

Becky returned to the podium and encouraged members to participate in the PR webinars. She explained that everything we do at NAWS is a part of FD. We don't "seed" development like missionaries, so it's always important to stay abreast of our constantly developing Fellowship to be clear about what World Services can and should do, and what might be better handled by a neighboring zone, for example. This requires constant collaboration and communication.

Becky highlighted the role NA World Services plays in getting disparate NA members/communities together—and then they grow exponentially. In the past, NAWS held worldwide workshops focused on the US and places where NA was not zonally connected. Significant resources were dedicated to four workshops to bring together Russian-speaking members. Since then, they have done hundreds of workshops in what are now six regions, and in other Russian-speaking communities. Similarly, in the Middle East NAWS brought together Arabic- and Farsi-speaking members. The first effort of this kind gave birth to the Iran WSO. They have started a Middle East Convention. Once things begin developing, NAWS steps back and only participates if invited.

North American efforts are a challenge because we are so spread out and diverse. She mentioned service-oriented learning events like the Florida Service Symposium, Western Service Learning Days, the first Multi-Zonal Service Symposium, the first European Service Learning Days, and others. Becky applauded these efforts of members getting together to focus on Fellowship development and to learn to serve better. The majority of NAWS' travel, particularly in the US, is to zonal forums. Several photos were shared in slides.

#### **Latin American Zonal Forum**

Junior (WB) shared about his personal involvement with the Latin American Zonal Forum which stemmed from his WSC participation in 2002. At that time, all of Brazil was one region and he was the only zonal member who spoke Portuguese; today there are nine regions in Brazil.

Junior shared photos from some events, including Bolivia, Cuba, and Paraguay. We often try to organize members from neighboring communities to help with Fellowship development. Other times Board members or staff attend. He showed photos of the first convention in Trinidad and Tobago, and the Brazil Pantanal ASC which is remote but has grown to almost 30 groups.

Junior reported on WCNA 36, held in Rio de Janeiro, which underscored the ability of members and professionals to work collaboratively. Five hundred NA members attended a PR meeting where professionals shared their perspectives on helping addicts find recovery in NA. Junior closed by inviting everyone to the Brazil Convention in Bahia, Brazil, to be held two weeks after the WSC.

### **Asia Pacific Forum**

Tali M (WB) highlighted NAWS' Asia Pacific Forum efforts this past cycle. She became involved with the APF when she moved to Hawaii 19 years ago. There are 26 communities seated at the APF. At the most recent APF meeting in February 2016 in Bangkok, there were 22 countries present. The Thai Basic Text was distributed, and on the last day of the meeting, representatives of a treatment facility attended, and were given Thai Basic Texts to distribute throughout Thailand.

Tali told the story of the Chinese woman introduced in a video at WCNA in San Diego. The member had been given a White Booklet and, eventually, a Basic Text in prison. She stayed clean and is now out of prison. At the most recent meeting she was the first Chinese woman to attend the APF. They sent literature home with her to Beijing.

NAWS did an FD trip to Nepal at that community's request to help rejuvenate their NA community due to struggles after the earthquakes. We held workshops and expected 50 to 60 members, but nearly 200 attended! Members committed to attend and support meetings across their community borders and NAWS agreed to help the LTC move its work along.

Tali closed by sharing about the practice in Nepal of touching a Seventh Tradition contribution to the head, the mouth, and the heart before putting it in the basket to demonstrate respect for the Seventh Tradition and the goodwill we get from it.

### **Middle East**

Becky covered Middle East Fellowship development highlights, including the challenges for women finding recovery there. NA respects every culture and there are some differences from community to community, but our spiritual principles are a constant. She commented that at one of her first Middle East events, the local members prioritized the challenge of including women in meetings. Some communities in the Middle East have not grown a lot, yet others like Egypt are growing.

### **Eastern Europe and Middle Asia**

Andrey G (NAWS Staff) covered developments in Eastern Europe and Middle Asia. In order to use resources as efficiently as possible NAWS sometimes combines different trips into one long trip. Andrey highlighted one such trip he participated in, which featured a convention celebrating 25 years of NA in Russia.

The Russian-speaking communities have a secret social media group where members from around the world talk about all kinds of topics, and there is also a Russian-speaking virtual service committee that supports Russian-speaking meetings around the world and also holds internet video recovery meetings.

Strategic planning is used in Russia and has positive results like its current six regions, NA in 200 cities, more than 400 groups, and approximately 1,500 meetings per week.

The EDM funded a member from Romania to attend NAWS workshops in Moldova. Romanian is the state language of Moldova. We made a list of all hospitals and institutions in Moldova and tried to visit all of them with a team of trained members.

After each presentation, we assessed what we learned. Now, in Romania, there is a meeting in a hospital started by the member who was funded on this trip with another member.

Last cycle we had two trips to Ukraine. NAWs and EDM support has been useful there. For instance, we provided local members with experience, resources, and support to approach government officials to discuss something similar to US drug courts.

NAWS traveled to Kazakhstan for conventions twice this cycle. We helped connect members from different cities to form a region and to develop area service committees. It was great to see their growth this cycle. A video was shown highlighting the Kazakhstan NA community.

Andrey closed with a reminder that Fellowship development reports are published in The NA Way Magazine and he encouraged members to use it to get information.

### **Western Europe**

Becky spoke briefly about the European Delegates Meeting and referred Conference participants to the EDM's videos and reports for more complete reporting on development in Western Europe. Only about half of the EDM's member regions are seated at the WSC, said Becky, but the zonal forum is a great example of effective FD and communications. As a result of the EDM, NA communities connect, collaborate, and sponsor one another as they grow. Becky encouraged Conference participants to talk with EDM members about how a zonal forum functions. Becky shared several photos from Europe, including some from the First European Service Learning Days. Because such events are often attended by only RDs, the EDM offered funding assistance only to non-RDs to encourage others in service to participate. This resulted in hundreds of trusted servants from at least 23 more countries participating. Becky said that events like this and the Multi-Zonal Service Symposium allow members who do service to learn together. The next ESL will be in Poland.

### **Africa**

Becky talked about the formation of the Afri-can Zonal Forum. Becky said she believed NAWs funded initial development of every non-US zonal forum, with the exception of Brazil and Russia—and sometimes continued to provide financial support for a long time. This is the case in Africa. The only NA community as we understand it in that zone is South Africa, which is a busy, thriving region, but they can't take care of the whole continent.

Helping to bring together this group of NA members has helped them learn that they are not alone and now they are connecting, communicating, and growing. The members who created the zonal forum are people who live in Africa, got clean in Africa, and will continue to live there and create the future of NA in Africa. Since creating the zonal forum they have held monthly internet meetings to keep their connections, they put on learning days, and translation activity and PR activity has increased.

Becky said that the first draft of the Swahili Basic Text will be taken to Africa when she and Ron M (WB) travel to the East Africa Convention in a couple of weeks. Becky reported that the African continent has been flooded with a bad translation of an illicit Basic Text and a bad translation of the Second Edition Basic Text. So, the politics of NA in North America have been exported into a community that is just trying to figure out what the NA message is. Communities in Africa don't want to be a part of these battles. A video from the Third Afri-can Zonal Forum held in Mombasa was shared.

In closing, Becky emphasized that all of these efforts are accomplished through communication and collaboration. She expressed gratitude for the opportunity to serve the NA Fellowship in this way.

## ELECTIONS AND BUDGET REPORT

2:30 pm–4:45 pm Led by Anthony E (NAWS ED), Franney J (WB Chair), Sherry V (HRP), and Becky M (NAWS Assistant ED)

### **Elections**

Anthony E (NAWS ED) and Franney J (WB Chair) opened the session, made some announcements, and turned it over to Sherry who explained the election process. Ballots were handed out as a roll call was conducted.

Roll call #4 was conducted [See Appendix B] by Sherry V (HRP) showing 128 participants present.

### **2016-2018 Budget and project plans**

Anthony let participants know that there wouldn't be a line-by-line review of the budget; time does not allow it and the material has been out with the CAT for 90 days. The CAT contains a detailed description of the budget beginning on page 17. The project plans are different than they've been in the past; they depend upon our ability to synthesize material at the Conference. Becky will go through that part of the budget proposal, Anthony said.

Becky M (NAWS Assistant ED) began by explaining that we are taking a creative approach to workgroups this cycle. Because funds are not available for one full workgroup, we intend to use some combination of virtual and face-to-face meetings much like we did last cycle.

The strategic plan contains many objectives. The ones requiring project plans are

- Recovery Literature
- Service Tools
- Collaboration in Service
- Future of the WSC
- Fellowship Development and PR
- Social Media as a PR Tool

#### **Recovery literature**

Survey results for book-length recovery material were covered last night; some sort of daily meditation book seems to be what we want. In the past we've asked questions to gather input that will help frame the direction of a book. It would be easy to do the same with the daily meditation book in the two years before the Board presents a project plan in the 2018 Conference Approval Track.

We're saying the same thing about what's been adopted in Motion 3 [to develop a project plan for an IP about mental illness and recovery]. There will be a project plan in the 2018 CAT, but that doesn't mean we can't try to gather input on what people are interested in including (and not including) in the piece during the next two years.

#### **Service tools**

The best service tools we have are ones that reflect actual best practices. We're committed to continuing that approach. Individual and regional responses to the survey varied, but both reflected the same ideas. It's not surprising that individual members prioritized group tools and regions prioritized area tools. Both are important to both groups. The events and convention handbook also ranked high, and it has been on the NAWS priority list for a long time. A whole handbook does not necessarily need to be produced all at once; we can instead begin creating tools on specific topics which are easier to review and approve.

The rest of the material in the budget and project plans is not new information, Becky explained. If we had time, we would go through each project plan one by one, but we want to be sure we have time to answer questions. Anthony again emphasized that the budget description answers many questions people may have.

One thing to note, Anthony, said, is that "Guiding Principles" has a conservative estimate for income because we don't want to be dependent on funds that may or may not materialize.

Sales of *Living Clean* have already begun to plateau despite the fact that it's a relatively new piece of literature. "Guiding Principles" could potentially do the same thing. Therefore we would like to gather sales pattern data before we can forecast a better income projection.

## Q&A

The remainder of the session was spent in questions and answers, including the following. Answers to each question are in parentheses.

### **Survey & Literature and Service Material Project Plans**

One participant asked why the two meditation books were combined to be the highest ranking rather than ranking service in recovery second highest. The concepts for the two are similar, Becky explained, and with 48% of the combined regional response and 30% of the Fellowship response, nothing else really comes close. If the Conference approves of this direction, the input we gather before the next WSC should give a sense of whether there is a common understanding or differences of opinion about what a meditation book might be. In answer to another participant's request to also gather input on service and recovery, Becky explained that a specific focus for input is better because it takes so long to translate material and get the word out.

Another participant asked how the survey information will figure into the budget process, and Anthony reiterated that we will try to do as much as we can with what we have, including collecting ideas to frame the literature projects for the 2018 CAT. We also need to focus on service material and tools since many have not been updated in 20 years.

### **Budgeting and allocation of funds:**

In response to participants' questions Anthony clarified that project plans are voted on prior to the budget and that all activity is funded from the general fund. We don't do restricted funds. A participant asked what happens if the budget falls short, and Anthony said we believe we have enough resources to continue providing fixed services regardless of what may arise. Anthony reiterated that it costs about a quarter million dollars per cycle for a workgroup for a book-length piece and it seemed more reasonable to try to spread the money across a number of projects. We will do the best we can with what we have, and this is our best forecast

A couple of participants asked some questions about the general budget. One wanted to know why the Conference is only discussing the variable expenses when that is not the majority of the budget. Anthony replied that the Conference can ask the Board to reexamine any aspect of fixed services. Another participant asked when we would be able to increase the money spent on things like Fellowship development and translations. Anthony explained that our reserve policy calls for a year of expenses for Fellowship support, WSC, and Fellowship development. Right now we have between three and four months. The commitment we've made to Africa, the trip to Vietnam, our commitments to translators are all possible because of the money we have in the bank. We agree that it is time to make some measured choices, but we don't want to do anything we can't sustain. We've increased translators and proofers dramatically, for instance, but it's hard to see some of the investments we've made with our old accounting system; they are all contained within the category "cost of goods." Hopefully the new accounting system will be an improvement.

### **Budget categories and terminology**

One participant asked how improvements to NAWS' efficiency are built into the budget. We're always trying to improve our efficiency, Anthony said; those efforts are reflected in the budget already—for example the elimination of a Board meeting in the cycle and the reduction in cost of some service contracts. We integrate some ongoing improvements into the infrastructure costs of the organization. Anthony reminded

participants that budget categories and terminology are explained in the budget cover in the CAT

### **Cash reserves**

In response to one participant's concerns about how NAWS can weather uncertain times and what it costs to keep the office operating, Anthony explained that we have what is called an emergency action plan, with four stages to it that are activated by certain financial triggers. Each stage reduces expenses. The plan is designed to keep the organization alive. Stewardship means assuring the survivability of the vessel. It costs approximately \$26,000 for an operating day, Anthony said, and we have approximately 3.8 months in reserves to pay for Fellowship development, WSC support, and Fellowship support. We have enough reserves to absorb an unsuccessful financial event such as a World Convention, Anthony affirmed.

### **Contributions**

One participant asked whether World Services was prepared for a decrease in donations when more money gets dedicated to development of zones. The budget is more reality based than it used to be, said Anthony. We aren't anticipating anything particular, but we are conservative when it comes to estimating income.

### **Iran**

One participant asked why cost of goods for Iran does not show under "other inventory." This is really just a formatting issue, said Anthony. Because we don't have access to the funds, we tend to segregate Iran. We would end up with a similar breakdown because it's the exact same types of items, but we lumped Iran activity together. We can't do a side-by-side comparison because of the inventory differences.

### **Utilizing trusted servants**

One participant asked if it would be possible to begin a dialogue about utilizing more trusted servants to do the work of the WSC and offset the expense of special workers. This is a bigger issue than a budget question, Anthony said. As a Conference participant, you can begin a dialogue with the World Board.

### **Product catalog**

A participant asked if there was no new product catalog because prices have remained the same, and were they going to be increased soon. Yes, said Anthony, we promised we wouldn't wait as long before implementing an increase, but that's not why there's no product catalog. It's simply because we have to prioritize resources.

The session closed with Lisa C (RD Pacific Cascade) letting people know that this evening, when sessions are over, there will be breakout rooms available for whoever wants to have a round table discussion about new business proposals.

## **Election Results**

Election results were announced in the breakout rooms of the session that followed.

### **WORLD BOARD**

<b>Candidate Name</b>	<b>RBZ Source, if any</b>
Jose Luis A	World Board
Jack H	World Board, Washington Northern Idaho Region
Khalil J	World Board
Tali M	World Board
MaryEllen P	World Board
Tim S	World Board

**HRP**

<b>Candidate Name</b>	<b>RBZ Source, if any</b>
Veronica B	Sweden Region
Jim B	World Pool

**COFACILITATOR**

<b>Candidate Name</b>	<b>RBZ Source, if any</b>
Mark B	Florida Region

The session was closed at 4:45 pm.

**FIPT & LITERATURE BREAKOUT DISCUSSION**

5:00 pm–6:30 pm

*Breakout Session*

As in the previous breakout sessions of this Conference, participants were assigned to one of five rooms. The session opened with a Board member giving a brief review of the previous day's *FIPT* session including the results of three polls conducted on Wednesday. (See page 42.) Each of the five breakout rooms spent about 15 minutes in a large-group discussion of the question, "What more do you think NAWS can/should do?" about three issues: illicit texts, registering groups who use non-NA approved literature, and service bodies posting NA literature. The facilitators listed ideas at the front of the room and then each participant selected their top two priorities in each of the three categories. Before concluding this breakout session, facilitators noted the priorities that emerged in this exercise (See Appendix D) and reminded Conference participants that these would be raised again in Saturday's Moving Forward session.

**FUTURE OF THE WSC 3: HOW DO WE GET THERE FROM HERE?**

8:30 pm–10:00 pm

*Breakout Session*

**GOALS:** To brainstorm ideas about how to move forward in the coming cycle and frame questions to engage our Fellowship in the process of shaping the future of WSC.

This was the third and final session devoted to the Future of the WSC. Once again, participants split up into five separate rooms and chose their own tables to have small-group discussions. The session began with a full-group discussion about participants' experiences using the Planning Our Future materials to facilitate local conversations. Participants talked about how workshops and discussions to date had gone, what roadblocks were encountered, and what worked well.

Small groups then took up the overarching question of how to move forward to get input from the Fellowship and begin building a shared vision. Each table considered the following questions and then shared their thoughts with the room (see Appendix F):

1. What would it take to build consensus?
2. What questions must we ask the Fellowship?
3. How can we frame this discussion in a way that avoids roadblocks?

**Friday 29 April 2016****NEW BUSINESS DISCUSSION AND PROPOSAL DECISIONS**

9:01 am–11:05 am

*Led by Dickie D & Laura B (WSC Cofacilitators)*

Dickie (WSC CF) and Laura (WSC CF) began with an apology to the Uruguayan RD for not taking the time to completely understand his request during the Tuesday business session.

Roll call #5 was conducted [See Appendix B] by Dickie D (WSC CF), showing 125 participants present (110 regions), 84 represents a 2/3 majority, 63 represents a simple majority.

Dickie reminded the body that the numbers for simple and 2/3 majority will change with each poll or vote depending on the number of participants present and voting. Note: Appendix C contains a brief glossary of decision-making terms.

Before introducing the first item of business, Dickie let the body know there were 62 items to dispense with in new business, and that old business had taken two days. The items have been grouped by topic, and Motions 19–25 and Proposal BG will be dispensed with first because they are related to the budget and must be dealt with by law.

## **Budget and project plans**

### *Motion #19*

**To approve the *Recovery Literature* project plan for work in the 2016–2018 conference cycle.**

*Maker:* World Board

Franney J (WB Chair) presented the motion and asked the body if they agreed with the direction of the project plan as follows: Front-end input to be gathered on the daily meditation book and mental health IP project plans in the 2016–2018 cycle, with project plans to be included in the 2018 CAT.

***Straw poll Motion 19: consensus support 121-3-0-0 (yes-no-abstain-present not voting)***

Becky M (NAWS Assistant ED) explained that the Board had planned to straw poll the body about adding this focus to the project plan: for input to be gathered on the daily meditation book and mental health in the 2016–2018 cycle and project plans for development in the 2018 CAT. She asked if it needed to be straw polled, or given the poll just held, can it just be added to the project plan? No objection was voiced.

In response to a participant's question, Franney explained that the motion used the term *mental illness* and the survey referred to *mental health*. The project plan will incorporate whatever input there is from the Fellowship moving forward. Franney further explained that the Board does not read mental health or mental illness as being significantly different. The piece will be shaped by whatever emphasis there is in the Fellowship input.

### *Motion #20*

**To approve the *Service Tools* project plan for work in the 2016–2018 Conference cycle.**

*Maker:* World Board

Franney J (WB Chair) read the motion and clarified that pieces are to be developed for group and area tools, and events and conventions. Anything developed will be sent out for input and presented to the Conference for approval.

***Straw poll Motion 20: consensus support 119-4-0-1***

Clif G (RD California Mid-State) expressed concern about working within the budget, and was ready to vote against the motion because other plans need the resources.

In response to a participant's question, Franney explained that not all objectives have project plans, and that the project plans are outlined in pages 13–16 of the CAT.

In response to another question, Franney explained that the completion dates of some of these projects depends upon available resources.

### *Motion #21*

**To approve the *Collaboration in Service* project plan for work in the 2016–2018 Conference cycle.**

*Maker:* World Board

**Straw poll Motion 21: consensus support 117-5-2-0**

Motion #22

**To approve the *Future of the WSC* project plan for work in the 2016–2018 Conference cycle.**

Maker: World Board

**Straw poll Motion 22: consensus support 121-5-0-0**

Motion #23

**To approve the *Fellowship Development and Public Relations* project plan for work in the 2016–2018 Conference cycle.**

Maker: World Board

**Straw poll Motion 23: consensus support 120-4-1-0**

A delegate asked how participants can be informed about the particulars of the project plan, and Franney J (WB Chair) explained that project are primarily reported on in *NAWS News*.

Motion #24

**To approve the *Social Media as a PR Tool* project plan for work in the 2016–2018 Conference cycle.**

Maker: World Board

**Straw poll Motion 24: consensus support 116-6-1-2**

Phyllis S (RD Hawaii) said she felt it was a great tool and idea, but was concerned that we are not ready and that social media needs monitoring.

Motion #25

**To approve the 2016–2018 Narcotics Anonymous World Services, Inc. budget.**

Maker: World Board

**Straw poll Motion 25: consensus support 120-3-2-0**

Proposal BG

**To supplement the \$200,000 in new allocations for project plans with all unused funds from the 2014–16 Service System and Traditions Book Project Plans.**

*Intent:* To use the funds allocated and not spent from the 2014-16 conference cycle towards projects in the upcoming conference cycle.

Maker: South Florida Region

Jeff P (RD South Florida) explained that the wording of the proposal reflected the language used in the introduction to the project plans in the CAT, which stated that the \$200,000 for project funding would be supplemented by \$38,000 in carry-forward funds previously committed to the PR project, but never spent. This proposal intends to use the same rationale to allocate other funds that have not been used in previous cycles as they did not feel that \$200,000 was enough.

Franney J (WB Chair) stated that the unused \$38,000 for the PR Project would be rolled over and used for PR roundtables. If additional funds become available during the cycle they will be allocated to the approved project plans. None of the unused funds are just sitting in savings.

**Straw poll Proposal BG: lack of support 46-74-5-0**

A participant asked whether a policy workgroup could be created if the budget allows it, and Becky M (NAWS Assistant ED) clarified that the *Future of the WSC* project plan already includes Conference business and seating issues.

Another participant asked about the effect of the reduction in the events category of the budget and why there wasn't additional funding for project plans. Anthony E (NAWS ED)

explained that in years that we do not have a World Convention, we do reallocate money. Technically the funds are there, but we utilize them across the spectrum of the entire budget as necessary. We allocate our budget based on fixed percentages over the 24-month cycle.

A delegate asked if projects were allowed to go over budget, and if so, by how much. Anthony answered that “allowed” may not be the correct word. There is about a 10% variance built into the entire budget. The Board becomes concerned if project expenditure begins to show a pattern of running higher than anticipated. Franney J (WB Chair) later gave examples of a couple of times that the Board decided to go over budget, including scheduling face-to-face meetings for the WSC Decision Making group. These were not accidents; they were deliberate decisions the Board made to fulfil the goals the Conference has decided upon, Franney said.

Another delegate asked for clarification on the availability of unused resources. Franney explained that there is no category called “extra money.” If money comes in that is in excess of our projected incomes it would likely be attributed to current approved projects. We would report that to you as we have in the past.

A participant asked what would happen to any unused funds from the “Guiding Principles” Project. Anthony explained that we are not sure if there will be any unallocated funds at this point because bills will continue to come in for 90 to 120 days. There are two choices if you have unallocated resources at the end of a budget period, Anthony said; you can reallocate them or you can build financial reserves.

The proposal required a simple majority.

#### **Proposal BG failed: 28-92-4-2**

The initial straw poll on Motion 25 had consensus support. No one in the minority wished to speak to the Motion, and the straw poll was accepted as final.

## FORMAL NEW BUSINESS

10:47 am–11:05 am

The body entered a formal business session to dispense with Motions 19–25.

#### **Motion #19**

**To approve the *Recovery Literature* project plan for work in the 2016-2018 conference cycle.**

*Maker:* World Board

Motion required a simple majority.

**Motion 19 carried: 123-1-2-0**

#### **Motion #20**

**To approve the *Service Tools* project plan for work in the 2016-2018 Conference cycle.**

*Maker:* World Board

Motion required a simple majority.

**Motion 20 carried: 120-5-1-0**

#### **Motion #21**

**To approve the *Collaboration in Service* project plan for work in the 2016-2018 Conference cycle.**

*Maker:* World Board

Motion required a simple majority.

**Motion 21 carried: 120-3-3-0**

*Motion #22*

**To approve the *Future of the WSC* project plan for work in the 2016-2018 Conference cycle.**

*Maker:* World Board

Motion required a simple majority.

***Motion 22 carried: 119-6-1-0***

*Motion #23*

**To approve the *Fellowship Development and Public Relations* project plan for work in the 2016-2018 Conference cycle.**

*Maker:* World Board

Motion required a simple majority.

***Motion 23 carried: 120-3-2-1***

*Motion #24*

**To approve the *Social Media as a PR Tool* project plan for work in the 2016-2018 Conference cycle.**

*Maker:* World Board

Motion required a simple majority.

***Motion 24 carried: 116-6-2-2***

*Motion #25*

**To approve the 2016-2018 Narcotics Anonymous World Services, Inc. budget.**

*Maker:* World Board

Motion required a 2/3 majority.

***Motion 25 carried: 121-3-2-0***

A break was taken from 11:05 until 11:30 am.

## NEW BUSINESS DISCUSSION AND PROPOSAL DECISIONS (CONTINUED)

*11:30 am–1:02 am Saturday*

After the break Laura explained that the remaining proposals would be dealt with in the Business Discussion and Proposal Decisions session. If the body continues at the same pace, it will take 18 hours to get through all of the proposals. She suggested that, to save time, when a proposal did not meet the 80/20 rule, discussion be limited to two pros and two cons, at two minutes apiece. There were no objections from the body.

Discussion began with the seating proposals.

### ***Proposals to seat specific regions***

*Proposal A*

**To seat the Grande São Paulo Region at the WSC.**

*Maker:* World Board

The proposal required a 2/3 majority.

***Proposal A carried: 110-9-3-3***

*Proposal B*

**To seat the HOW Region at the WSC.**

*Maker:* World Board

The proposal required a 2/3 majority.

***Proposal B carried: 115-6-2-3***

### *Proposal C*

#### **To seat the Rio de Janeiro Region at the WSC.**

*Maker:* World Board

The proposal required a 2/3 majority.

**Proposal C carried: 116-5-2-3**

### *Proposal D*

To remove Le Nordet Region from the list of seated regions at the WSC.

*Intent:* To have the WSC records reflect the regions able to attend the WSC. This region no longer exists and has become a part of the Quebec Region.

*Maker:* World Board

The proposal required a 2/3 majority.

**Proposal D carried: 124-1-1-0**

### *Proposal Y*

#### **To seat the Bluegrass/Appalachian Region at the WSC.**

*Intent:* To seat the Bluegrass/Appalachian Region

*Maker:* Kentuckiana Region

Janeen L (RD Kentuckiana) said that the region is the other half of Kentucky and had split before the moratorium against seating split regions. The region was two years old at that time, which was 14 years ago. There is still no resolution to the seating problem and it feels punitive to still not allow them seating. If they were seated on this floor, it would be easier for us to come together to provide statewide services.

Franney J (WB Chair) responded that the recommendations for seating began on page 37 of the CAT, and that they were based on the workgroup's work. The workgroup made recommendations after a thorough investigation. All supplemental information provided after the workgroup made their recommendations to the Board was considered by the Board prior to the Conference and it was not the recommendation of the Board to seat this region.

**Straw poll Proposal Y: lack of support 48-67-4-7**

John F (AD Carolina) said that the region neighbors his region and he was concerned that they were being denied access for the wrong reasons. He stated that 80% of the region's funding comes from their convention and that there are regions on the floor that this was also true for. The region carries the message, is a functioning region, and his region supports seating everyone.

Michael G (RD North Carolina) added that that the regions tried to reunify. This new information came out after the seating workgroup recommendations and is published in the *Conference Report*.

The proposal required a 2/3 majority.

**Proposal Y failed: 50-65-6-5**

### *Proposal AK*

#### **To seat the Brazil Nordeste Region**

*Intent:* To seat a region with 127 groups and 287 meetings and increase the diversity of the World Service Conference.

*Maker:* South Florida Region

Jeffrey P (RD South Florida) said that we often use rigid guidelines. Brazil is a huge country, and Brazil Nordeste is larger than many regions seated here today. They have an RSO, a convention, and service committees. The rationale for not seating them was partly that they

haven't existed for three years, Jeff said, but the *nucleos* in the Brazilian service structure are like a training ground for being a region. Next month they will have met for three years. Franney J (WB Chair) began by saying one of the concerns in making seating recommendations was, of course, whether continuing to seat regions fulfills the direction of the Conference while we are still looking at our future planning. Brazil Nordeste didn't meet the criteria required at the time of the application. Whether or not service delivery is going to be consistent takes a measured amount of time.

**Straw poll Proposal AK: lack of support 57-64-2-3**

Francelle F (AD Brazil) explained that *nucleos* were formed in 2005 and were the beginning of all the regions in Brazil. The region will be three years at the end of May, she said. It is a large region with nine states that provides many important services. George B-H (AD Washington/N Idaho) also emphasized the size of the region.

The proposal required a 2/3 majority.

**Proposal AK failed: 67-53-2-4**

**Proposal AL**

**To seat the Rio Grande do Sul Region**

Intent: To seat a region with 78 groups and 216 meetings and increase the diversity of the World Service Conference.

Maker: South Florida Region

Jeffrey P (RD South Florida) said that regions are being held hostage while the future of the WSC is discussed and that all regions should have the ability to participate.

Franney J (WB Chair) responded that the Board's recommendation is outlined in the CAT and that the additional information in the *Conference Report* did not change the recommendation. We believe the community needs to continue to grow and develop.

The proposal required a 2/3 majority.

**Straw poll Proposal AL: lack of support 58-60-4-4**

Miquel (RD Brazil Sul) shared that Rio Grande do Sul has been a region for long enough and the criteria in the CAT are subjective. Rio Grande do Sul does a lot of service, and they workshopped the *CAR*. They function differently than Brazil Sul. Brazil is large with much diversity that it would be good to hear from at the WSC.

Pierre A (RD Quebec) said his region worked to reunify with Le Nordet and they also have vast geographic territory so he understands the challenges and is in favor of the proposal..

Arthur A (RD Southern California) reminded everyone that the regions all belong to zones and that Motion 11 means that zones will have representatives here. Some regions will be able to experience the Conference in that way first.

Jason G (RD New Jersey) asked for a roll call vote.

**Straw poll to have a roll call vote failed: 53-70-2-1**

Paul F (WB) asked for clarification on Motion 11 about how many representatives from zones may attend. It was confirmed that only one participant from each zone may attend.

Chris M (RD Buckeye) urged the Conference to consistently uphold the criteria for seating.

The proposal required a 2/3 majority.

**Proposal AL failed: 55-67-2-2**

**Proposal AM**

**To seat the Brazil Central Region**

Intent: To seat a region with 89 groups and 239 meetings and increase the diversity of the World Service Conference.

*Maker:* South Florida Region

Jeffrey P (RD South Florida) said this region spans three time zones and is one month shy of three years. They provide service and they are a region. They were unhappy with the workgroup's recommendation and that is why they gave me their information to post.

Franney J (WB Chair) responded that the region formed in November 2013 and did not meet the seating criteria. When additional information was sought it was not supplied. This isn't personal; it's based on criteria that have been approved by the WSC.

***Straw poll Proposal AM: lack of support 54-69-2-1***

Felipe V (RD Colombia) said he believed the Board was leading the Conference in the direction they wanted it to go. This is a spiritual decision, Felipe said; NA's growth shouldn't be limited for economic reasons. He said he was disappointed that the other requesting regions haven't been given seating; they have more groups than in his region.

James C (RD Sierra Sage) referenced the First and the Fifth Tradition and said that groups that are not seated do not have the same opportunity to carry the message. We shouldn't disenfranchise these groups from outside the US.

Dave T (RD San Diego/Imperial Counties) reminded everyone that the recommendations were based on the criteria created by the WSC. He asked the body if they were on the workgroup would they have ignored the seating criteria, the group conscience.

Sue K (RD Australian) said that there is a process for seating and that it wasn't being followed. She also said she didn't feel led by the World Board, but she did feel some of those speaking were trying to emotionally manipulate.

The proposal required a 2/3 majority.

***Proposal AM failed: 55-68-2-1***

***Proposal AX***

**To seat Turkey Region.**

*Intent:* In the spirit of unity and goodwill.

*Maker:* Nebraska Region

***Proposal AX was withdrawn.***

***Prioritization of remaining business***

The different categories for the remaining proposals were prioritized.

Literature: Proposals E, AF, AI, BI, AP, BK, BL, and O = 39 votes

Process and Procedures: Proposals X, AD, AG, BO, BP, BR, AA, AY, BJ, AS, AR, AC, BM, AW, AT, BE, BF, AV, and U = 27 votes

Future of the WSC: Proposals BA, BT, AE, AH, BC, BD, and BB = 50 votes

Miscellaneous: AN, AZ, AQ, BH, F, AO, AJ, L, AU, AB, BN = 10 votes

The Conference broke for lunch at 1:15 pm until 2:40 pm.

***Proposals on the future of the WSC***

In response to a question, Laura clarified that any Conference participant can bring forward a proposal not presented by its maker, at the end of the relevant category. As the seating category was finished it would not be possible to present Proposal AX.

***Proposal BA***

**For the World Board to initiate a process, which could last more than one conference cycle, that would produce proposals for a new structure of the World Service Conference.**

*Intent:* To direct the World Board to formulate a new and, potentially, vastly different conference structure that celebrates recovery, improves the decision making process, and accommodates growth in regional representation.

*Maker:* Chicagoland Region

Louis H (RD Chicagoland) shared his belief that the Conference design is holding us back. Business has weighed down the body in many ways. Imagine what the WSC would look like if it were truly consensus-based and didn't have to vote on motions, if there were more time for planning and discussion, and more room for growth.

Franney J (WB Chair) responded that she believed that the World Board has been trying to do something similar to the intent of this proposal without being able to build consensus. The Future of the WSC project encompasses the ideas in this proposal.

***Straw poll Proposal BA: lack of support 50-65-9-1***

Marla M (AD Wisconsin) and Kathleen M (AD Mid-Atlantic) both said they believed that changes in the Conference should be discussed by the participants who can then involve the Fellowship.

Rob B (RD Show-Me Region) asked if this proposal could be forwarded to the workgroup.

Louis H (RD Chicagoland) replied that the proposal gave the Board latitude, but the hope was that it would be a Fellowship-wide conversation not just a conversation within a workgroup.

Brandon C (AD Mountaineer) asked if proposals for the future of the WSC could be referred to the World Board and Dickie asked the Board.

Franney J (WB Chair) replied that when proposals that do not have a significant amount of support are referred to the World Board, the result can be a waste of resources and time. She urged the body to determine whether there is support for proposals and if there is, trust that the Board hears that and will factor the ideas into their planning work.

The proposal required a simple majority.

***Proposal BA failed: 36-83-4-3***

***Proposal BT***

**Seating to be proportional to the meetings we serve and/or delimited by geographical country limits. In regards splitting regions: seating to be available through a zonal forum. A zonal forum will have a limited number of representatives. The maximum will be proportional to a 10% of the meetings they serve.**

*Intent:* Create seating criteria

*Maker:* Costa Rica Region

Laura R (RD Costa Rica) said the intent was to ensure a balance in the number of voices at the Conference and to foster growth in a healthy and prosperous manner.

Franney J (WB Chair) responded that the World Board was working to facilitate conversations about the future of seating, and not to direct the Conference.

***Straw poll Proposal BT: consensus not in support 17-101-5-3***

Linda O (AD Hawaii) asked the maker if she meant 1% or 10%. The answer was 10%. Linda said that Iran has 20,000 meetings and that the count for the APF would be huge.

Nathan F (RD Mid-America) said he had voted in favor of the proposal simply so that he could ask a question to the maker, and that this was a problem with the process, that it does not allow questions to be asked. He asked if the proposal was moving forward or retroactive. [The question was not answered.]

No one in the minority wished to speak, and the initial straw poll was considered a final vote. The proposal required a 2/3 majority.

### ***Proposal BT failed***

#### ***Proposal AE***

**To hold the WSC every 3 years with the CAR released no less than 240 days prior to the conference.**

*Intent:* To change the frequency of the WSC and extend the time to translate and review the CAR.

*Maker:* Costa Rica and Argentina Region

Carlos S (AD Argentina) said that changing to a three-year cycle would allow time for translation of materials and discussion of business in between cycles, and would save money.

Franney J (WB Chair) replied that the Future of the WSC project will consider the ideas that are supported by this body. Some of these ideas may be best forwarded to the project so that they can be considered more holistically. This proposal represents a very big change which hasn't been evaluated.

#### ***Straw poll Proposal AE: lack of support 45-74-3-4***

Gregory S (RD Metro Detroit) again suggested sending all proposals about WSC processes to the Future of the WSC workgroup for consideration to get a good evaluation of them.

Kathleen M (RD Mid-Atlantic) said the Conference is in a process and it took us a long time to get here and we should stick with the process.

Ken F (RD Arizona) said we need to send ideas like this back for discussion.

Chris M (RD Buckeye) hoped that the straw polls weren't the only way to take the pulse on ideas because almost any idea is worth consideration at this point. He voted for this proposal because he doesn't have a sense of the translation needs, but he trusts that the makers do.

Laura R (RD Costa Rica) shared that they do not have enough time to collect a conscience because the translated CAR is not published until December.

The proposal required a 2/3 majority.

#### ***Proposal AE failed: 39-77-4-6***

#### ***Proposal AH***

**To create a project plan and workgroup to study the feasibility of turning WSC into a planning conference. The planning conference could be similar to, though not identical to, the idea laid out on pages 61–63 of the 2016 Conference Report**

*Intent:* To move toward a planning conference, based on CBDM principles, where we hear from every participant, produce ideas, project plans, and/or motions that we have reached by consensus, to allow a full 2 year cycle for fellowship discussion that has already been translated and to present ideas, project plans and/or motions that are clear and well-reasoned to the fellowship for the consideration.

*Maker:* ABCD Region

Sandra M (RD ABCD) explained that this proposal would enable Conference participants to create the CAR together and send it out to the Fellowship to discuss for two years. She also mentioned that she counted the dots from the breakout rooms and this idea received approximately 100 dots. We need to give specific direction to the workgroup, she said.

Franney J (WB Chair) clarified that the Board—not a workgroup—is the only place a proposal can be committed. This is an interesting idea, Franney said. The Board would like to see the level of support. All of these ideas will be considered moving forward.

#### ***Initial straw poll Proposal AH: lack of support 52-65-3-6***

Cindi B (RD OK) expressed confusion because the strategies to accomplish Objective Four of the Strategic Plan includes all of these ideas. Voting on proposals without study and

evaluation is not conscientious. This session isn't giving the Board a clear pulse on whether we think these are good ideas for further investigation.

Dickie D (WSC CF) said that in the Moving Forward session some of these ideas will be brought forward.

Sandra M (RD ABCD) said she submitted the proposal to the *Conference Report* for discussion but it didn't appear on the agenda which is why she made the proposal.

Eddie W (RD Central Atlantic) said the idea of changing the nature of the WSC into a planning session had immense potential and could help translations and provide direction for the Board.

Mark H (World Board) said that many of the proposals were good ideas but deciding on them in New Business without evaluation and discussion may not be in our best interest. He hoped that all the proposals would be discussed as part of the Future of the WSC work. One of our challenges is to figure out how to discuss what we want to discuss without making a proposal in business.

### **Second straw poll Proposal AH: lack of support 52-67-1-6**

Michelle S (RD Northern California) asked if the proposal does not pass, can it be asked if there is agreement in principle so it can be passed on to the Board.

Franney J (WB Chair) answered that because it is a business session that probably couldn't happen. She explained that the Conference sessions were created to be able to discuss the ideas forwarded for the *Conference Report*, but that two days of old business had made it difficult to have those discussions. She restated that the World Board was reading all the dots in all the breakout rooms and that everything that came up in those discussions will be considered in the projects.

Dave T (RD San Diego/Imperial Counties) said he had faith that the proposal will be looked at. It was supported in his small group. He encouraged everyone to trust the process and submit their ideas to the Board. Some of these are good ideas, but they need more discussion and Fellowship input.

Sandra M (RD ABCD) withdrew AH because she believed there was support for the idea, and she didn't want it in the record as failed.

### **Proposal AH was withdrawn.**

### **Proposal BC**

#### **To have interpreting service available at WSC for delegates of regions who request so.**

*Intent:* To extend the WSC resource pool to more recovering addicts willing to serve, regardless their English language skill.

*Maker:* Italy Region

Pasquale G (RD Italy) said the proposal was intended to make service available to all.

Becky M (NAWS Assistant ED) explained that translations are usually arranged by the World Service Office and it was already being done for Portuguese, Spanish, and Japanese because there has been communication with delegates to arrange resources between Conferences. There are limits to time and resources, including finding someone who understands NA language. English is the official language of the Conference, but NAWS will do anything it can to help.

### **Straw poll Proposal BC: support 59-50-5-13**

Matan L (RD Israel) asked how many delegates did not speak English as a first language. Thirty-three cards were raised.

Rollie S (AD California Inland) said he didn't understand how anyone could oppose having more translators and encouraged delegates to vote yes.

Irene C (World Board) said although she would like to accommodate this, having 40 extra interpreters would create problems that the body may not be ready to deal with.

Maciej W (RD Poland) said he was originally opposed to the proposal, but he changed his vote because there are already Japanese, Portuguese, and Spanish translators, and because most zones already speak English it doesn't seem there will be a large demand for more interpreters.

Guilherme N (RD Portugal) said there are requirements to do this kind of service, and at the WSC specific skills are required.

The proposal required a 2/3 majority.

**Proposal BC failed: 52-70-0-4**

*Proposal BD*

**To ask the delegates to go back to their regions with the question/workshop below: "What is that your region thinks and feels about zonal representation?"**

*Intent:* To bridge the gap of lacking information about what zones/WSC/seated/unseated regions are and could work better.

*Maker:* Greece Region

Stavros P (RD Greece) asked the Board to respond to the proposal first.

Franney J (WB Chair) said the Board supported asking the question to the communities.

Stavros P (RD Greece) said the EDM regions have had this discussion, but the US regions need to be involved in the discussion as well. People lack information about what the WSC is and they need help developing a global perspective. This will help us take a pulse to bring to the Conference and stop delaying.

**Straw poll Proposal BD: strong support 81-36-3-6**

Pierre A (RD Quebec) said he didn't think voting on these proposals was helpful. He's been voting one way but feeling another. He said Cindi and Mark and others have said the same thing.

James L (RD Western New York) referenced the Concepts and said delegates are responsible to bring information from the Conference to their regions. Jimmy E (RD Sweden) supported this position.

Jeffrey L (AD Mid-America) said he would like to workshop the question, but would need a definition of a zone first.

The proposal required a simple majority.

**Proposal BD carried: 79-40-2-5**

*Proposal BB*

**To have NAWS create a separate donation fund through which individual members, groups, areas, regions, or zones can contribute funds to help zones with limited resources send a participant to WSC 2018 if requested.**

*Intent:* To not let funding be a barrier to be a potential zonal participant as WSC 2018.

*Maker:* Southern California Region

Arthur A (RD Southern California) presented the proposal and said that he didn't think this constituted earmarking funds, but rather giving people a chance to participate.

Anthony E (NAWS ED) explained that if funds are dedicated to a singular purpose, they are earmarked and they cannot be used for other services, such as translations. That's why the Fellowship decided to have one general fund and not earmark funds.

**Proposal BB was withdrawn**

A break was taken from 4:49 pm to 5:25 pm

## Literature

### Proposal E

**To adopt as policy: If the WSC takes action that changes the name or title of a Conference- or Fellowship-approved document, that name or title change may then be reflected everywhere the name or title appears without requiring further action by the WSC.**

*Intent:* To allow the will of the WSC to be reflected in NA Service manuals and materials.

*Maker:* World Board

Franney J (WB Chair) explained that if Proposal E passes, Proposal F will not need to be made.

The proposal required a 2/3 majority.

**Proposal E carried: 117-2-2-2**

**Proposal F was withdrawn**

### Proposal AF

**To change the current review and input guidelines for Fellowship-approved literature from 90 days to 9 months.**

*Intent:* To enlarge the review and input period for Fellowship-approved literature.

*Maker:* Free State Region

John R (RD Free State) talked about the challenge of holding literature review workshops in his region, which has 865 groups and ten areas, with only a 90-day review period.

Franney J (WB Chair) replied that it is more advantageous for a project to use that time to get front-end input as it allows more persons to impact how the book would take shape. The proposal makes no distinction between a book-length piece and a pamphlet.

**Straw poll Proposal AF: strong lack of support 28-91-5-2**

Delores P (AD Free State) asked if the proposal could be amended to six months for a pamphlet and nine months for a booklet.

Julio F (RD Uruguay) said that extending the time would help with translations and enable more input and participation from members.

The proposal required a 2/3 majority.

**Proposal AF failed: 42-80-2-2**

### Proposal AI

**To create a workgroup to review our literature processes (review and approval) and propose options that will make those processes more accessible for our members who do not speak English.**

*Intent:* To look for ways in which we can remove the language barriers to participation in the creation, development and approval of our literature and move closer to the spiritual goals encompassed in our Vision Statement.

*Maker:* South Florida Region

Jeffrey P (RD South Florida) asked the Board to respond to the proposal first.

Franney J (WB Chair) explained that currently the WSC does not create workgroups; it is done by the Board, based on priorities. This was not prioritized for this cycle, but the body could decide to do this, which would modify the budget. We believe it would need a 2/3 majority because it is not current policy to create a workgroup in this way.

Jeffrey P (RD South Florida) said that the proposal was motivated by the fact that the Traditions Book was not translated into Spanish in the CAR, which prevented members from participating in the development process. If we are truly a global Fellowship, he said, we

can't ask people to approve literature that they cannot read. We are not asking for a quick fix, but for us to work toward a goal.

**Straw poll Proposal AI: support 73-44-4-5**

Kristina C (RD Mountaineer) said the more opportunity we have to review literature the less arguments there tend to be about it.

Maria K (AD Western Russia) said the proposal is one of several dealing with language barriers. Workgroups should include one person from every language group in NA, which would save time for translations.

George B-H (AD Washington/N Idaho) explained that he was not opposed in principle, but funding and prioritization should be considered when forming workgroups.

Deb N (RD British Columbia) suggested that it might make sense to translate the addenda into all the languages the CAR is currently translated into, but not every language in the world.

In response to a question, Laura explained again that creating workgroups on the floor of the WSC is not current policy so it will require 2/3 to pass this proposal.

The proposal required a 2/3 majority.

**Proposal AI failed: 68-55-1-2**

**Proposal BI**

**That the NA World Board develop a project plan which includes a budget and timeline to create an information pamphlet specially regarding DRT (drug replacement therapy) and MAT (medically assisted treatment) for consideration at the 2018 World Service Conference.**

*Intent:* To have easily accessible Fellowship-approved literature available to members that helps address who we are and who we are not, in a loving and welcoming manner in accordance with our 3rd tradition. Just as with mental illness in recovery, too many addicts are dying for our message due to not having a clear, but loving, fellowship position on this issue.

*Maker:* Northern New York Region

Dennis M (RD Northern New York) said that members of his region felt this should be addressed as soon as possible, and that something similar to the PR pamphlet would meet the need.

Franney J (WB Chair) replied that the literature survey was just completed and this did not rise to the top. The Board did not support anything that was not part of the literature survey, but leaves these decisions to the body to make.

**Straw poll Proposal BI: lack of support 51-65-5-5**

Adam H (RD Connecticut) said anything that starts the creation of new recovery literature should be in the CAR not put in a proposal on the Conference floor.

George B-H (AD Washington/N Idaho) asked if moving to a planning conference, as has been discussed means it would be appropriate to start that now and send this proposal to the CAR.

Stavros P (RD Greece) said many meetings are confused about issues like whether members on drug replacement can speak or take service positions, and this would help.

The proposal required a simple majority.

**Proposal BI failed: 47-72-3-4**

### *Proposal AP*

**To direct the World Board to prioritize IP #26 – Accessibility for Those with Additional Needs, and the Additional Needs Resource Information SP be updated to reflect current practices.**

*Intent:* To prioritize IP #26.

*Maker:* South Florida Region

Jeffrey P (RD South Florida) shared that his region has an additional needs subcommittee, which they have a need for because of the number of retirees. The IP was written in 1998, and is outdated. His region would be willing to assist.

Franney J (WB Chair) replied that there are many pieces of literature that need re-writing and that the use of resources needed to be prioritized.

#### ***Straw poll Proposal AP: lack of support 53-66-3-3***

Michael G (RD North Carolina) shared his experience seeing a member with a service animal being turned away from a meeting and said that accurate information might save lives.

Lisa C (RD Pacific Cascade) said she understands prioritizing may not mean it gets done right away, but she wanted to see more help accepted when regions offer it.

Grainne H (AD Irish) questioned whether a budget and the time would be available to develop an IP and asked if instead a region could come up with a draft IP and submit it as a local service resource that groups could choose to use.

Cindi B (RD OK) asked how many more literature projects the body was going to try to adopt on the floor after the literature survey had been completed.

The proposal required a simple majority.

#### ***Proposal AP failed: 48-73-1-4***

### *Proposal BK*

**To direct the World Board to develop a project plan for 2018 to update the Living Clean: The Journey Continues book with a subject and also spiritual principle index.**

*Intent:* To make Living Clean: The Journey Continues more easily referenced and improve it as a resource for recovery research.

*Maker:* Washington/N Idaho Region

Bonner S (RD Washington/N Idaho) shared about the challenge of trying to look up a spiritual principle in *Living Clean*, and said that the idea originated in a home group.

Anthony E (NAWS ED) explained that this was not a simple task. When we try to identify spiritual principles, how do we do it, whose understanding is it based on, he asked. Creating the Sixth Edition index was challenging, and it cost as much money as it costs to translate the Basic Text. Complex indexes are challenging in non-English, and they have been simplified in some translated books.

#### ***Straw poll Proposal BK: consensus not in support 10-109-2-2***

David P (AD Pacific Cascade) shared that the Basic Text index saved his life. He used the index to find references to God and Higher Power when he was really struggling, and the index has frequently helped him tremendously.

Bonner S (RD Washington/N Idaho) asked to withdraw the proposal. There was an objection. The proposal required a simple majority.

#### ***Proposal BK failed: 10-110-0-3***

*Proposal BL*

**To Direct the World Board to create a project plan to be included in the 2018 CAT to develop an Informational Pamphlet on Bulletin 13 "Some Thoughts Regarding Our Relationship to Alcoholics Anonymous".**

*Intent:* To provide a cost effective, useful, and accurate solution in the form of an IP that will assist our members in answering questions regarding the relationship between our fellowships.

*Maker:* Louisiana Region

Kory P (AD Louisiana) shared that this was an issue in his region, and they would like a resource that highlights similarities and differences in an accurate way. The proposal came from a home group. Members were not aware of the literature survey at the time the proposal was made.

Franney J (WB Chair) reiterated that the Board did not support literature proposals that were not prioritized in the survey.

***Straw poll Proposal BL: consensus not in support 23-97-4-1***

James C (RD Sierra Sage) shared that in his region they print Bulletin #13, which gives a clear message of NA's relationship to AA, and that it helps with clarity in the NA message.

Harold L (RD Wisconsin) said that many IPs are based on our current literature, and he questioned why there is a bulletin yet there isn't support for an IP.

The proposal required a simple majority.

***Proposal BL failed: 19-102-4-1***

*Proposal O*

**That the following changes be made to PR Pamphlet "Narcotics Anonymous and Persons Receiving Medication Assisted Treatment". On page three (3) under " NA and people on medically assisted treatment." The third (3rd) sentence be changed to "However, within the context of NA and its meetings, we have generally accepted principles, and one is that NA is an abstinence-based recovery program. Persons who are taking drug replacement medication are not considered drug free."**

*Intent:* This will present a CLEAR message of what Clean is according to our Basic Text and will not allow our definition of "Clean" be confused or up for interpretation by individuals outside or inside our Fellowship.

*Maker:* Greater Philadelphia Region

Zoe H (RD Greater Philadelphia) shared about the importance of tools that will present a clear message to professionals that NA is a drug-free Fellowship.

Laura ruled the proposal out of order as there is no mechanism for changing wording in a draft that isn't published.

Chris M (RD Buckeye) objected to the facilitator's decision.

***The facilitator's decision to rule the proposal out of order was upheld: 83-37-3-3***

The Conference recessed for dinner at 7:00 pm and returned at 8:40 pm.

*Proposal X*

**That the conference change policy affecting the percentage needed for election to the World Board from 60% of the WSC to simple majority.**

*Intent:* To change the percentage needed for election to the World Board

*Maker:* Mountaineer Region

Kristina C (RD Mountaineer) that the proposal started in a home group. The concern is that the size of the Board would continue to shrink and that opportunities would be missed.

Franney J (WB Chair) said that the Board did not support the proposal, as the current 60% requirement was a Conference decision to ensure confidence in Board members.

The proposal required a 2/3 majority.

**Proposal X failed: 23-98-2-2**

*Proposal AD*

**To reconsider Motion 2C and change the motion to read “No more than 1 term in a lifetime.”**

*Intent:* To reconsider Motion 2C and change the World Board term limits.

*Maker:* Costa Rica Region

Laura R (RD Costa Rica) said that the principle of rotation is important, and there are many qualified members who are prepared to serve. This proposal would allow for more new faces and a representation of the global Fellowship.

Dickie explained that reconsideration of Motion 2C would require a second. Blanca C (RD Region Del Coqui) seconded the proposal.

Franney J (WB Chair) responded that Motion 2 had been in the CAR for Fellowship-wide discussion and based on yesterday’s elections, it did not appear that Proposal AD was supported because two Board members were reelected. The learning curve for a Board member is long and there is an investment on the part of the Fellowship.

The proposal required a 2/3 majority.

**Vote on Proposal AD to reconsider Motion 2c failed: 13-112-0-1**

*Proposal AG*

**To direct the World Board to present a motion in the 2018 CAR to limit service on any WSC position to 2 terms in total for lifetime.**

*Intent:* To have the World Board create a motion.

*Maker:* German Speaking Region

Nima A (AD German Speaking) declined to speak to the proposal.

Franney J (WB Chair) said that the proposal seems to apply to all WSC positions, and the Board is not in favor of that because it is not be in the spirit of serving the Fellowship.

The proposal required a simple majority.

**Proposal AG failed: 15-112-0-1**

*Proposal BO*

**To replace the language in A Guide to World Services, page 10.**

**The following terms may be used by the WSC Cofacilitator when announcing the results of a straw poll:**

<b>Unanimous support</b>	
<b>Consensus support</b>	<b>(meaning 80% or greater support)</b>
<b>Strong support</b>	<b>(meaning 2/3 majority support)</b>
<b>Support</b>	<b>(meaning simple majority support)</b>
<b>Lack of support</b>	<b>(meaning less than simple majority support)</b>
<b>Strong Lack of support</b>	<b>(meaning less than 1/3 support)</b>
<b>Consensus not in support</b>	<b>(meaning 20% or fewer support)</b>
<b>No support</b>	

*Intent:* To capture all terminology used for straw polling and decisions at the WSC in one place.

*Maker:* World Board

Franney J (WB Chair) explained that the Conference has been using these terms and it seems more efficient. This language is consistent with our practice of measuring support rather than opposition.

The proposal required a 2/3 majority.

**Proposal BO carried: 118-8-1-0**

*Proposal BP*

To adopt the following approaches for use in the business discussion & proposal decisions sessions:

**Measuring Consensus**

**Consensus will be measured as 80% or more of voting participants in agreement with (identified as *consensus support*), or 80% or more of voting participants not in agreement (identified as *consensus not in support*) with a motion or proposal.**

**Introducing Motions and Proposals**

Once a motion or proposal is presented, the maker can comment and the World Board can comment. The facilitator will then conduct a straw poll to measure the initial level of support for the motion or proposal.

- If there is a ***consensus not in support*** of the motion or proposal, the facilitator will select **up to** two members who are not part of the consensus, to comment on the motion or proposal. The facilitator will then conduct a second straw poll.
  - If a ***consensus not in support*** remains, discussion ends. For a proposal, the results of the straw poll will be considered a vote and the proposal will fail. Final decision of a motion will happen during the business session, if presented then.
- If there is ***consensus support*** for the motion or proposal, the facilitator will select **up to** two members who are not part of the consensus, to comment on the motion or proposal. The facilitator will then conduct a second straw poll.
  - If ***consensus support*** remains, discussion ends. For a proposal, the results of the straw poll will be considered a vote and the proposal will be adopted. Final decision of a motion will happen during the business session if it is presented then.
- If the motion or proposal receives more than 20% but less than 80% support in the first or second straw poll, the facilitator will allow for discussion of the motion or proposal, as discussed in *A Guide to World Services* and using these tools.

*Intent:* To continue our evolution towards a consensus based conference

*Maker:* World Board

Franney J (WB Chair) said she would not speak to the proposal as the Conference has been using these tools.

**Straw poll Proposal BP: consensus support 114-8-4-0**

Gary M (AD Tejas Bluebonnet) offered a friendly amendment to have the facilitator choose **up to** two people.

Franney said the amendment would not be opposed.

Clif G (RD California Mid-State) questioned whether the intention was to use the process in formal business also.

Franney J (WB Chair) responded that this body has been using it in formal business as well, and the Board wouldn't be opposed to changing the proposal to reflect that, but the original intention when the proposal was drafted was to move slowly and to use it in the Business Discussion and Proposal Decisions session only.

Lisa C (RD Pacific Cascade) said she didn't believe two participants was enough to hear from the minority voice.

Nathan F (RD Mid-America) asked if the proposal should include language to address the facilitators' role in bringing the body in and out of the Formal Business sessions and the Business Discussion sessions.

Dickie replied that the Cofacilitators were trying to alleviate some of the problems at the WSC and move through business more quickly, and the body could choose what to accept. The proposal required a 2/3 majority.

**Proposal BP carried: 107-17-2-0**

*Proposal BR*

**To add the following language to GWSNA:**

**The following are our current approaches for use in all business discussion & proposal decisions sessions. They should be viewed as tools to assist in discussing business rather than policy or restrictions.**

### **Managing Discussions**

**The facilitator has the ability to manage the discussion by using the following approaches:**

- **The facilitator may conduct intermediate straw polls to measure any change in support for the motion or proposal.**
- **The facilitator may declare that discussion will end after a specific speaker, or the facilitator may close the discussion queue.**
  - **If there is an objection, the facilitator will conduct a vote to determine support for the facilitator's decision. Consensus support for the facilitator's decision is required for the decision to prevail.**
- **Members may speak for a maximum of three minutes each time they are recognized by the facilitator. The facilitator may extend the time limit when they believe such action is warranted.**

*Intent:* To give the WSC Cofacilitators more tools to use to facilitate discussion.

*Maker:* World Board

Franney said that the Conference has been practicing this and that at this WSC, the Cofacilitators have cut the time for discussion to two minutes, and that type of flexibility always remains with the body.

**Straw poll Proposal BR: consensus support 113-8-4-0**

Mitchell S (RD Greater New York) asked for clarity regarding the level of support referenced in the proposal for the facilitators' decision to prevail. Is it supposed to be consensus support, which would be 80% or a simple majority which is what we've been using for an objection to the facilitator to be upheld?

Dickie and Laura clarified that this proposal is describing a higher standard to uphold the decision to close discussion. Franney added that the proposal was based on the recommendation of the WSC Decision Making Workgroup.

Don S (AD San Diego/Imperial Counties) said he abstained because this current format doesn't allow participants to ask questions. He asked what Business Discussion and Proposal Decision sessions are and whether it would require 2/3 to change this in the future.

Franney J (WB Chair) explained that Business Discussion and Proposal Decisions is the session where all items of business are discussed and decisions are made about proposals. If this proposal passes it would require a 2/3 majority to change it in the future.

Don S (AD San Diego/Imperial Counties) also asked how to object to the facilitator closing the queue without using a yellow card. Dickie replied that the Cofacilitators would ask for any objections.

The proposal required a 2/3 majority.

**Proposal BR carried: 117-6-2-0**

*Proposal AA*

**Move the processes outlined in Motions 15, 16, 17 into our *Guide to World Services***

*Intent:* To add the procedures in Motions 15, 16, 17 to GWSNA.

*Maker:* Costa Rica Region

**Proposal AA was withdrawn**

*Proposal AY*

**To eliminate formal business session at WSC in old and new business. Final straw polls on all matters in discussion sessions will be final decisions.**

*Intent:* To change procedures for business at WSC.

*Maker:* Washington/N Idaho Region

George B-H (AD Washington/N Idaho) shared his disillusionment with the business processes—that it seemed redundant to go over the same material on Tuesday that was covered Monday with the only difference being the addition of the yellow card. He thinks it's important not to cancel sessions like strategic planning.

Franney (WB Chair) responded that Proposals AY, BJ, AS, and AR all seemed to offer change that seems to be desired. She said the Board appreciates the creativity of the four proposals and asked if they could be bundled and committed to the Board and then changes to GWSNA could be put out for a 90-day delegate review prior to the next WSC.

Dickie asked if there were any objections to the next four proposals being committed to the Board.

Sandra M (RD ABCD) believed that the four proposals were very different and that they needed more study.

Dickie suggested that because several cards were raised each proposal would be considered separately.

Franney asked for a straw poll on each proposal to see if discussion was needed.

David P (RD Irish) asked to withdraw proposal AR.

Jimmy E (RD Sweden) objected to withdrawing the proposal.

Cindi B (RD OK) said she believed that it's appropriate to refer all four proposals to the Board and trust the process.

Gregory S (RD Metro Detroit) offered that as a maker of one of the four proposals he was strongly in support of bundling them and suggested straw polling this.

Franney said bundling will not give the Board direction and asked if it was the body's intent to see substantial change to the formal business session.

**Straw poll on eliminating formal business: consensus support 93-19-3-12**

Commitment requires simple majority

**Proposals AY, BJ, AS, and AR were committed to the World Board with direction to eliminate formal business sessions: 94-26-2-4**

### *Proposal BJ*

**To eliminate formal business from the decision process of a motion and a proposal. When the body comes to a consensus in the discussion session, that consensus completes the decision making process.**

*Intent:* To eliminate the waste of time spent in formal business, when formal business doesn't change the decision.

*Maker:* Central California Region

### *Proposal AS*

**For the 2018 World Service Conference we eliminate the separation between the old business discussion and old business decision sessions. The old business session will involve discussion of motions and proposals followed by decisions in a series fashion.**

*Intent:* To eliminate the "batching" of old business resulting in a duplication that currently occurs with discussion sessions and formal sessions.

*Maker:* Metro-Detroit Region

### *Proposal AR*

**To change the old business process into the following: As informal discussion on each motion and its amendments and proposals related to the motion are completed, the conference immediately enters formal old business to ratify the decisions agreed to in straw polls.**

*Intent:* To try and speed up the old business process allowing for discussion and at the same time keep the business moving by voting directly after discussion while the information is still fresh in our minds.

*Maker:* Ireland Region

A break was taken until 10:30 pm.

### *Proposal AC*

**Establish a guideline limiting conference business sessions to no more than 8 hours.**

*Intent:* To establish a guideline for maximum time of business session.

*Maker:* Costa Rica Region

Laura R (RD Costa Rica) said this was her fourth time at the WSC and it is like a marathon meeting. Participants have talked to her about being burned out and exhausted. It is not okay for participants to fry their brains as well as their hearts. The hope is that this proposal would make service more attractive.

Franney (WB Chair) responded that using time more efficiently would be good for everyone. This is a long week for everyone, but it's not a good solution to make changes that might result in limiting or eliminating breaks. The bundled proposals previously committed to the Board may, in part, address some of these concerns. The World Board does not support this proposal.

### ***Straw poll Proposal AC: strong lack of support 19-98-2-1***

Nathan F (RD Mid-America) said that the process being used is flawed because how he voted was determined by his desire to comment on the proposal, and not by how he felt about the issue.

James L (RD Western New York) said he was challenged by the unclear language of the proposal. He believes the maker means eight hours in a day. Part of the challenge the Conference has faced is a lack of clarity in the proposals.

The proposal required a 2/3 majority.

### ***Proposal AC failed: 17-102-2-1***

### *Proposal BM*

**The creation of a rule for conference participants, in which when the same Proposal / Motion appears in 2 consecutive conferences and fails in both conferences, a moratorium be placed on the Proposal / Motion (length of time determined by the conference participants).**

*Intent:* To minimize or eliminate Proposal / Motion repetition conference after conference. This will increase conference productivity which is estimated to currently cost the fellowship approximately \$6000.00 per hour.

*Maker:* Wisconsin Region

Harold L (RD Wisconsin) asked to commit the proposal to the World Board for a future process workgroup.

Franney (WB Chair) asked for the body to either make a decision on the proposal or give the Board more direction by polling to see the strength of support for the proposal before taking it as input.

### **Straw poll Proposal BM: strong support 91-27-4-2**

Franney asked for a final decision from the body rather than referring the proposal.

Marty D (AD Michigan) pointed out that if a region requested seating twice, they would be ineligible the third time.

Diane K (RD Nebraska) said that the proposal might hinder the ability to do what's appropriate to fix the WSC.

Julie R (AD California Mid-State) asked if the proposal would include nominations. Harold L (RD Wisconsin) replied that it was not intended to include elections or nominations.

Rex J (RD Central California) said the proposal was a good idea even if it was about skipping just one WSC, the body would not be missing much even in the case of a region being seated.

Rollie S (AD California Inland) offered a friendly amendment to proposal to not include seating new regions. Harold L (RD Wisconsin) declined the amendment.

Laura closed discussion and opened a final straw poll. A participant asked to challenge that decision, and Laura called the challenge out of order as two pros and two cons had been heard, which were the discussion rules the body had decided upon.

The proposal required a 2/3 majority.

### **Proposal BM failed: 70-49-4-3**

Rob B (RD Show-Me) asked for a vote excluding seating. No response was given.

### *Proposal AW*

**To eliminate the requirement that regional motions need a second or add the requirement that World Board motions need a second.**

*Intent:* To require that regional motions and World Board motions meet the same criteria.

*Maker:* Metro-Detroit Region

Gregory S (RD Metro Detroit) said he thought there should be one set of standards for all motions.

Franney (WB Chair) explained that the significant difference is that World Board motions represent the voice of 16 board members. However, it's up to the Conference to decide whether it wants to require a second on motions.

Chris M (RD Buckeye) said the proposal was out of order as a simple *yes* or *no* response wasn't possible.

Gregory S (RD Metro Detroit) asked to amend the proposal to read "all motions require a second."

The amendment required a simple majority.

**To amend Proposal AW to read “all motions require a second” failed: 61-53-9-2**

Delores P (AD Free State) offered another friendly amendment to read “all motions need a second from an RD.”

Kristina C (RD Mountaineer) suggested it would be simpler to amend the proposal to read just “to eliminate the requirement that regional motions need a second.”

Gregory S (RD Metro-Detroit) accepted the amendment.

Cindi B (RD OK) asked why formal old business was being discussed when the body already referred all substantial changes to business to the World Board.

Laura replied that she expected the Board would want the body to give some clarity before referring it.

Jeffrey P (RD South Florida) suggested the proposal read “to eliminate the requirement that CAR motions need a second.”

Daniel A (Toti) (RD Argentina) shared that in his region proposals from areas don’t need a second because they represent groups, but proposals from the executive committee do because they’re individual members and don’t represent groups.

The amendment required a simple majority.

**To amend Proposal AW to read “to eliminate the requirement that regional motions need a second” carried: 80-34-7-3**

**Straw poll on Proposal AW as amended: strong support 82-39-1-3**

*Proposal AW*

**To eliminate the requirement that regional motions need a second or add the requirement that World Board motions need a second.**

Mark H (World Board) explained that a second is required to ensure that at least one other person thinks something is worth discussing.

Dave T (RD San Diego/Imperial Counties) said he did not want to consider any more policy written on the Conference floor and asked that any other be given to the World Board as input.

Gregory S (RD Metro Detroit) said he represented 412 groups in his region and they have the right to be heard.

The proposal required a 2/3 majority.

**Proposal AW failed: 55-66-2-2**

*Proposal AT*

**To require that only motions from the World Board or seated regions appear in the 2018 Conference Agenda Report (no proposals resolutions or straw polls).**

*Intent:* To simplify the process of gathering a conscience from the fellowship.

*Maker:* Metro-Detroit Region

Gregory S (RD Metro Detroit) referred to the 2012 *Conference Agenda Report* and said it was difficult to gather a conscience because it had resolutions, motion, proposals, and straw polls. We would just like to see a simplified CAR for 2018, he said.

Franney J (WB Chair) said the proposal seemed to be going backwards to inflexible standards, and the World Board does not support this.

The proposal required a 2/3 majority.

**Proposal AT failed: 23-92-4-6**

### *Proposal BE*

#### **To have the Conference Agenda Report sent translated by NAWS into the language of a region who requests it.**

*Intent:* To permit a wider understanding of the CAR content to local service committees and servants.

*Maker:* Italy Region

Pasquale G (RD Italy Nation) said he believed the proposal would help those with a language barrier. There is a wide need to have a better understanding of the contents of the CAR. The objective would be to allow everyone to be of service at a world level, not just English speakers.

Franney J (WB Chair) said she understood and was sympathetic, but this cannot be guaranteed as priorities. The CAR is published in six languages by NAWS and translated into other languages by local communities. The official language of the Conference is English, and NA speaks over 60 languages. It's not possible to assure that we can translate a document intended for just one Conference into all those languages. We have to prioritize other translation needs and not just the CAR.

#### ***Straw poll Proposal BE: strong lack of support 30-87-1-7***

Jeffrey L (AD Mid-America) asked why, given NA's growth, we would refrain from getting the information to our global fellowship.

Ashraf (RD Egypt) shared that his region also has challenges with translations, but the Arabic-speaking nations work together and ask for help. We were able to have a translation and a workshop about 20 days after getting the CAR.

Zoe H (RD Greater Philadelphia) said it's in our vision statement that all addicts receive the message and shouldn't we be moving towards that?

Mark H (World Board) replied that we are moving towards our vision, but we cannot do it all immediately, and we cannot translate into 60 languages.

The proposal required a 2/3 majority.

#### ***Proposal BE failed: 30-92-1-2***

### *Proposal BF*

#### **To revise the GTWS so that the Conference Agenda Report and the Conference Approval Track are released in Spanish at the same time as the English versions.**

*Intent:* To change the way the CAR and the CAT are distributed

*Maker:* Region Del Coqui

In response to a question from Laura, Blanca C (RD Region Del Coqui) said she didn't want to exclude anyone, but amended the original proposal to be limited to Spanish to give the proposal a better chance of passing.

Blanca C (RD Region Del Coqui) asked to hear the Board's response before speaking to it.

Franney J (WB Chair) said she understood the need, but it doesn't make sense to hold back the English CAR waiting for translations to happen. If this proposal went hand-in-hand with a proposal for a three-year Conference cycle it would make more sense because there would be more time.

Blanca C (RD Region Del Coqui) said the LAZF has a strong translations committee and would help with the translation of the CAR. We have to start somewhere, and this would be a good place to start.

#### ***Straw poll Proposal BF: strong lack of support 39-78-3-5***

Michael J (RD Indiana) asked why the English version would be delayed, and whether funding could be increased to cover more translations.

Anthony E (NAWS ED) explained that CAT and CAR release dates are both guided by Conference policy. The issue is not financial but rather having the human resources available to get the work done. Regular translators do not know how to translate NA language. This proposal says that the English-language CAR would be held back until the Spanish translation was completed, which would possibly not be in compliance with WSC policy. Most international assemblies have English as the official language. Even with all the Spanish-speaking resources available it hasn't been possible to translate the entire CAR.

Yasemin P (RD Finland) said it was very important to her region to receive the CAR as soon as it is available. Her region translates the CAR themselves, and that gives them a deeper understanding of the text. The EDM has more than 20 languages and manages to work in English. Her region feels this is part of the RD work they have committed to, and the proposal would be a waste of resources.

The proposal required a 2/3 majority.

**Proposal BF failed: 27-92-2-3**

George B-H (AD Washington/N Idaho) made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Mitchell S (RD Greater New York).

**Motion to adjourn failed: 49-70-0-4**

**Proposal AV**

**To require that World Board Internal Guidelines be subject to World Service Conference approval.**

*Intent:* Accountability to the fellowship

*Maker:* Metro-Detroit Region

Gregory S (RD Metro Detroit) said he believes it is the duty of the body to be responsible for approving any guidelines that are used by any committee or the Board.

Franney J (WB Chair) explained that World Board internal guidelines are to ensure the ability to be flexible in the way the Board meets; for instance, if we have to change a meeting. This is why they are called "internal." It doesn't seem to be practical to change this. There are external guidelines, decided on by this body—things including term limits and number of Board members.

The proposal required a 2/3 majority.

**Proposal AV failed: 24-89-3-5**

**Proposal U**

**To change the policy in the GWSNA regarding double room occupancy to allow for single room occupancy, for World Board members, without the need for prior request and approval.**

*Intent:* To update our policy to reflect our current practices.

*Maker:* Connecticut Region

Adam H (RD Connecticut) said the change was a housekeeping issue to reflect current practices of the Board. At WSC 2014, we asked the Board to adhere to the policy as it's written in GWSNA, and we heard that one-third of the Board would have valid reasons for single occupancy and another third would pay additional costs on their own, which would create two classes of Board members. We are asking that the policy be changed accordingly, said Adam.

Franney J (WB Chair) replied that it is not necessary to change the current policy. The policy as it is written does accommodate these World Board decisions, but if the body feels a change is necessary, the Board would certainly not be in opposition.

**Straw poll Proposal U: lack of support 50-58-4-10**

Laura R (RD Costa Rica) said she was confused because it seems that at times there are resources to accommodate special needs and other times we do not. This was discussed at the last Conference, and the body decided to accommodate these needs.

Kathleen M (AD Mid-Atlantic) said policy should reflect current practice.

Lisa C (RD Pacific Cascade) reiterated that this was discussed for an hour and decided at WSC 2014.

The proposal required a 2/3 majority.

**Proposal U failed: 51-59-2-9**

Laura told the body that the process and procedures section was completed. There are three options, said Laura: stay and finish, break now and meet in the morning, or decide not to deal with the miscellaneous category.

Don Cameron (WSC Parliamentarian) recommended to poll the body: “Do we want to consider the eleven proposals in the miscellaneous category at this Conference.” A simple majority was required.

**Vote to consider the Miscellaneous category carried: 67-49-2-3**

Laura told the body the proposals could be considered tomorrow morning from 9 am to 11 am. Franney explained that the Moving Forward session could happen at 11 am but that meant the proposals would have to be dealt with in two hours. Dave T (RD San Diego) said he didn't want to stay any later, but that he didn't want to compress the Moving Forward session. He said he believed the business would be decided more quickly tonight than tomorrow.

Kevin D (AD Kentuckiana) asked if anyone wanted to withdraw or commit any proposals.

Kevin D (AD South Florida) asked how the translators were, and Jay I (Japanese interpreter) expressed the difficulty of translating without a break.

Janeen L (RD Kentuckiana) suggested holding the Moving Forward session after lunch.

**Proposal AU was withdrawn**

Harold L (RD Wisconsin) said he didn't have the authority to withdraw the proposal he offered because it was the conscience of his region. He said he was tired and had medical issues but had to present it and therefore asked for a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded.

**Motion to adjourn carried: 71-38-2-4**

The session closed at 1:02 am.

## Saturday, 30 April 2016

### MOVING FORWARD WITH A COMMON VISION 2016-2018

10:00 am–12:37 pm

Led by Franney J (WB Chair) and Anthony E (NAWS ED)

#### **The order of the day**

Franney J (WB Chair) opened by explaining that the body may have been unclear about the close of the New Business session early this morning. Some participants understood that *to adjourn* meant to conclude all business; others thought the body was recessing and would take up business again Saturday morning. While a motion to adjourn concludes all business, Franney acknowledged that the Conference has been functioning under a flexible set of operating procedures. The intent, therefore, is to proceed with the Moving Forward session, including some of the proposals not previously covered in the New Business session, and if there are remaining issues, return after the closing lunch to conclude business. The first topic will be the *Fellowship Intellectual Property Trust* issues.

Nathan F (RD Mid-America) said the majority of participants last night thought they would continue with business in the morning and it was wrong to be in the Moving Forward session instead.

Franney responded that the Moving Forward session provides considerable direction to the Board and she proposed continuing with the Moving Forward session and return after lunch if there are still unresolved proposals. The body was polled on the order of the day.

**Straw poll: Stay in Moving Forward 68-52-1-2.**

Several delegates continued to raise concerns about the structure of the agenda for the day. One delegate said she and her AD would have to miss New Business because they have a flight. Don S (RD San Diego/Imperial) expressed concerns that the delegates were not the ones setting the priorities. Clif G (RD California Mid-State) also objected to not taking up new business and stated he would put his proposals on the floor that afternoon whether or not anyone was in the room, to fulfill his responsibility to members and his region. Valentin T (RD Baja Son) asked for a moment of silence and Serenity Prayer to help us all remember who we serve and why we are here.

**FIPT**

Franney reviewed results of the straw polls from the *FIPT* session. (See page 42.) She referred participants to a handout that contained all of the ideas from the breakout session on the *FIPT* (Appendix D) and said that this session was looking for additional ideas that may have been missed.

**Illicit texts**

Franney explained that providing information was a common thread in feedback this week. Although we can repackage previously distributed materials, she asked if there is additional information we can provide that is not already in the bulletins and essays distributed this cycle. Sandy M (RD ABCD) questioned the reason for the Moving Forward session, especially considering that the Conference had already provided extensive feedback on the *FIPT* issues. Franney clarified that the Board was trying to make sure that no ideas were missed.

What more can NAWS do to support communication and education regarding the illicit text? Ideas suggested included:

- Develop an IDT to inform the Fellowship with a workshop.
- Couple information with a workshop and/or PowerPoint on the Traditions attached to this issue so that members can have discussions about issues like what it means to support group conscience or what does it mean that the groups have autonomy except in matters affecting NA as a whole.
- Use a survey like the literature survey to gather Fellowship input
- Invite “the opposition” to present their side of the story and in that process, possibly lessen resistance and increase understanding from both sides
- Create a form letter for H&I facilities that addresses illicit materials that may be distributed to them.
- Send a “call for help” request through RSCs, and PR, PI, and H&I committees to address the issues proactively.

Don S (AD San Diego/Imperial Counties) said he believed the body was being led to discuss, finalize, and rubber-stamp something that the World Board and office wants and he questioned who decided that the *FIPT* was the number-one priority in Moving Forward. Franney explained that the order was selected based on what seemed to have the greatest concerns in the small groups and other sessions throughout the Conference week. The hope was to deal with this efficiently and move on to other topics.

### **Registering groups using illicit literature**

Franney said that in the session earlier this week, there seemed to be strong support to not register groups that are clearly using illicit literature. A straw poll was taken:

#### ***Straw poll: Do we say that NA groups use current editions of NA Fellowship-approved literature? 71-39-3-4***

Franney attempted to move on to the next question, but participants asked to discuss the issue. A limited queue was opened to see if further discussion would be necessary since earlier straw polls on this question also showed strong support.

Kathleen M (RD Mid-Atlantic) said that if this problem is too big for NAWS, then it is too big for the Mid-Atlantic Region. Her home group uses Fifth Edition Basic Texts for meetings, so does that mean the group will be removed from the meeting list? Franney reminded the body that this is a discussion, and that anything that goes out will be based on an agreement, not a directive.

Robert W (AD Greater New York) said he didn't believe the breakout sessions were really discussions; they were individuals speaking, and then the room coming to a rushed consensus using dots on pieces of paper. It doesn't seem to be the way to handle an issue of this caliber.

Jeffrey P (RD South Florida) said the issue directly affects his region. He would add to the list educating service committees on the Second and Ninth Traditions. His region believes "you have no right to tell us," and they can't afford to replace all of the old editions of literature. We need to take it slow when we talk about taking down websites.

Anthony E (NAWS ED) expressed that he realized some people in the room think this is an attempt to sell more Sixth Edition Basic Texts, and nothing could be farther from the truth. He said the purpose of these questions is to get this body's input and direction on the most painful thing confronting us as a Fellowship that is growing. He apologized if this was not framed clearly. He clarified that there are other issues that are important, but the topics on this list are here first because they seem to be causing the most pain in our Fellowship. He explained that we are trying to figure out what to do; we are at our wits end about some of these things.

Anthony pointed out that the top two items under the illicit literature area are about informing and educating. We have the 1991 WSC statement and affirmation of the question we asked you today that seem to set forth a pretty straight direction. We just want to be sure we haven't overlooked anything else that this body wants included. We actually have a proposal to create a draft to be sent out for input because many believe a statement needs to come from the WSC. We need to be deliberate, and we will come back to you with a summary of what we believe we heard.

Chris M (RD Buckeye) said he is concerned that all we did today was kick the hornet's nest. He believes a lot of time was spent on an issue that didn't produce any new ideas, and he doesn't believe the "other side" has interest in solving this. If we want to understand them, he says, we can just look in the mirror to see how difficult it is for people to acquiesce to the majority. He believes we are doing too much to empower them and that we have done all we can.

#### ***Straw poll: Are former editions of NA Fellowship-approved literature different in your mind than the hybrid versions that have been created and never approved in that form? 93-12-7-6***

Franney said that any statement made regarding this will go back to Conference participants for review and input.

### **ASC/RSC websites posting literature**

Franney clarified that when we talk about contacting areas and regions there are many steps before anyone would contact an internet service provider. This is about communication, perhaps creating a tool to be used when communicating with your webservant. Franney asked for anything additional regarding ASCs and RSCs posting literature online that was not said in the discussions.

Stephen D (AD Western New York) said that when we started this *FIPT* discussion, Anthony said NAWS is at wits end and is asking this body for help. In the spirit of empathy, he wants to know how to help. He shared about the recent passing of his sponsor and wondered why we are not talking about sponsorship as a solution to this issue. Anthony acknowledged that sponsorship was one idea brought up in small groups, but it received much lower prioritization than a lot of other ideas. Some items on the sheets are not new ideas and maybe we need a new way to present the ideas we already have. One of the ideas that many of you seem to feel strongly about is a statement from the World Service Conference.

Auric M (RD Mexico) said he believes we are going in circles and wasting time in these discussions. We should use professionals to do what we cannot because we are not lawyers, and it is confusing when we are being asked to decide whether or not to sue. We gave you the authority to do what is necessary.

Franney assured the body that the Board is not trying to steer this in some direction. The goal is to see if we are consistent with what we believe we heard coming out of the small groups. She read the statement adopted by the 1991 WSC:

*The Basic Text, Fifth Edition, is the only edition of the Basic Text that is currently approved by the World Service Conference of Narcotics Anonymous for publication and sale. The World Service Office Board of Directors is entrusted with the responsibility for protecting the fellowship's physical and intellectual properties, including the Basic Text, and at the board of director's discretion shall take legal action to protect those rights against any and all persons who choose to infringe upon this literature trust.*

She also read from page 43 of *A Guide to World Services*: “In 2008 the Conference approved the Sixth Edition Basic Text. It is now the only edition approved for NAWS production with the exception called out in the Translations Policies.”

### ***Straw Poll: Do we want an additional statement from WSC 2016: 73-36-5-3***

Franney reminded the body that no decisions are made here that don't go back and forth, and that process would be talked about. Franney asked for the continued support of the body and reminded everyone that anyone who is not happy with the process can provide input on the evaluation form as well.

Matan L (RD Israel) said his region was not aware of this issue and that he doesn't understand how this can be discussed at such length when there are so many uninformed regions that cannot provide an educated response. Anthony responded that World Services distributed two bulletins on this topic this cycle, translated into six languages, and have covered it in our publications in an unprecedented way. We may need to talk about how to communicate more effectively.

Adam H (RD Connecticut) asked if this means the World Board is going to craft a statement on behalf of WSC 2016. Will another couple of hours be magically found to craft a statement from the WSC 2016? Franney clarified that, if it is desired, the Board would put together something to get input from Conference participants in a specified period of time. She also emphasized that we are now eblasting 100,000 addresses and the *FIPT* essay went to all of those members.

Leopoldo C (RD Chile) said he has been assisting with building a new regional website and now understands to link directly to literature at [www.na.org](http://www.na.org). He asked for a

statement or a how-to guide on how to build websites. Franney encouraged him to continue working with NAWS on the website development.

Ashraf (RD Egypt) expressed that he believes no matter what is created it will be bypassed by those that don't want to follow it. The people using illicit literature will ignore statements and guidelines.

Helge B (RD German Speaking) pointed out that we already have a statement that instructs us to take legal action to protect our rights, and the World Board is not doing what they have been instructed to do. He thinks we should ask service providers to shut down websites, and have lawyers prepare for legal action. He is frustrated about the repeated discussion of the issue, he said.

Discussion ended and Franney concluded that, based on discussion and the straw poll results, it seems this body wants the World Board to develop a draft statement. It will be sent to delegates for review and input for approximately 60 days, 90 days total to approve and impact the statement, much the way Proposal BC was handled at WSC 2014. Everyone was encouraged to review and send input.

Dawn P (RD Montana) asked if there will be a way for people to ask questions. Franney said that the Board would certainly try to respond and clarify.

Nathan F (RD Mid-America) said that he wants to add a point to the discussion of groups using non-Fellowship-approved literature. Through group conscience his home group uses literature that is Fellowship-approved, Board of Trustees-approved, Board-approved, and Conference-approved in their literature study meetings. Does the Conference believe that his home group should be denied NAWS registration and world meeting list participation? Franney replied that there will be unique circumstances in many places and that those decisions will have to be made as autonomous bodies on some level. She clarified that this discussion is about the use of non-approved pieces that have never had Fellowship impact. You'll have to look at what we end up writing and impact it and then see if you can support it and it meets the needs.

Michelle S (RD Northern California) said that this issue is very important to her region. The discussion has changed her opinion, and she asked for a repeat straw poll on whether the body wants an additional statement from the WSC. Anthony asked if everyone understood what the body was being asked to do.

### ***Second straw poll: Do we want an additional statement from WSC 2016? 79-40-0-0***

#### **GWSNA**

*A Guide to World Services* will also be sent out for review and input with motions and proposals from this Conference incorporated with a similar time frame to impact it. Franney asked if there was anything additional.

#### ***Issue Discussion Topic survey results***

Franney said the top three IDTs prioritized by discussion and survey responses are:

- Atmosphere of recovery in service (24.3% region, 14.6% individuals)
- Applying our principles to technology and social media (19.5% region, 15.7% individuals)
- How to use "Guiding Principles" (which would cover any Tradition) (11.9% region, 9.7% individuals)

Franney asked if there were any objections to using these as the IDTs for the 2016–2018 cycle. Pierre A (RD Quebec) offered no objection, but said they had submitted a proposal that will not be heard because of today's agenda. Franney read the Quebec Region's Proposal AO, which suggested that an IDT topic be based on the second bullet in the A Vision for NA Service: Every member, inspired by the gift of recovery, experiences spiritual growth and

fulfillment through service. Franney thought this would be woven into the Atmosphere of Recovery IDT, but Pierre suggested the bullet point should be the primary emphasis of the IDT, not just an idea woven in. With no objections voiced, Franney took this as direction for the Board.

Kathleen M (AD Mid-Atlantic) said that seating and illicit literature are two important topics and suggested that these be included as IDTs to engage the Fellowship in a dialogue and help include members in the discussion and decision. Franney responded that the focus is simply on making sure there are no objections to these IDTs.

### **Conference Participants Discussion Board**

Franney noted that there is some division among the body about the discussion board. The WSC did not adopt the motion to make the discussion board public. She said most regional and zonal discussion boards we know of limit viewing and posting to current participants.

#### **Straw poll: Do we want to continue to have this board? 75-27-6-9**

The Conference Discussion Board will remain, Franney said, and asked if there are ideas to make the discussion board more useful. Please send your input to [worldboard@na.org](mailto:worldboard@na.org), Franney said, rather than have that discussion now. She noted that the World Board will be using a team instead of a single moderator. In response to a question, Franney confirmed that the discussion board will remain closed.

### **Future of the WSC direction**

Franney said that direction was received from small- and large-group discussions and proposals. The Board will feed information back to the body and encouraged participants with ideas on this topic to send them to [worldboard@na.org](mailto:worldboard@na.org)

### **Workgroups and project plans**

The possible workgroups for this Conference cycle are:

- WSC Seating: We heard during the last cycle, the body wanted this workgroup. It is called for in *GWSNA*, said Franney.
- Delegates Sharing: Franney said we heard the body was interested in continuing this virtual workgroup and asked if there were objections. None were voiced.
- Service Tools: for group, area, and events. The focus and scope will be determined as the group is formed.
- Future of the WSC seating, business, and use of time between Conferences. These issues have been brought up by the body. No workgroup is currently formed.

Email communications will follow from the World Board about project frames and needs, and requests for names of delegates or others who may be interested in serving.

Louis H (RD Chicagoland) asked where the proposal submitted by Sandy (RD ABCD) will be incorporated because it doesn't quite fit in the three items. Franney responded that she thinks it fits with the Future of the WSC and reminded the body that Proposal AH was withdrawn and submitted as input.

Harold L (RD Wisconsin) asked why seating was listed twice in the projects list. Franney explained that the WSC Seating Workgroup will assess, pursuant to current policy, whether or not any region will be recommended for seating at WSC 2018. The Future of WSC Seating focus is broader, exploring the issues and what seating may look like in the future.

Kim A (AD Central Atlantic) asked to add a bullet point under Future of the WSC "exploring what we do at the Conference." Franney responded that there is no problem with adding a bullet that says that. The idea is not going away, she reassured.

## Project prioritization

Each project approved by the Conference was straw polled to get a sense of the body's priority level for each option.

- **Recovery Literature: 34-37-45 (low-medium-high)**
- **Service Tools: 23-44-49**
- **Collaboration in Service: 31-41-44**
- **Future of the WSC: 21-13-82**
- **Fellowship Development & Public Relations: 15-32-69**
- **Social Media as a PR Tool: 40-35-39**

Franney explained that we have identified ways for some of the remaining new business proposals to be addressed. The Delegates Sharing Workgroup has been accommodated and will be withdrawn as a proposal. Franney asked Russia if their proposal for a multilingual forum could be folded into the Delegates Sharing Workgroup. Maria K (AD Western Russia) agreed to consider if it can be folded into the Delegates Sharing Workgroup.

Franney identified other new business proposals which can be addressed after lunch.

Session ended at 12:37 pm.

## STRAW POLLS OF NEW BUSINESS PROPOSALS

2:33 pm–3:53 pm

Led by Laura B and Dickie D (WSC Cofacilitators)

An attendance poll showed 106 voting participants present. A vote was taken to determine how the remaining new business proposals would be addressed. Three options were offered:

- **Option 1: Do nothing and close the Conference.**
- **Option 2: Reopen New Business Discussion and Proposal Decisions session.**
- **Option 3: Straw poll proposals only without discussion.**

**The results were: 6–Option 1, 46–Option 2, 59–Option 3**

Dickie announced that the body would straw poll each remaining proposal.

*Proposal AN*

**To continue to have the Delegate Sharing Virtual Workgroup WSC 2018.**

*Intent:* To continue a workgroup.

*Maker:* British Columbia Region

**Proposal AN was dispensed with in the Moving Forward session.**

*Proposal AZ*

**We suggest to develop a multilingual service network which would reflect our core service structure.**

*Intent:* We feel this network would be a practical service aid that helps to improve our communications, establish better connections with remote groups and regions and make our worldwide fellowship more accessible.

*Maker:* Western Russia Region

**Straw poll Proposal AZ: support 67-35-5-8**

*Proposal AQ*

**To create a project plan for inclusion in the 2018 CAT to review the HRP processes and present proposals in the 2018 Conference Agenda Report for improvements to those processes.**

*Intent:* To create a project plan for 2018 CAT.

*Maker:* South Florida Region

***Straw poll Proposal AQ: support 69-40-2-4***

*Proposal BH*

**Begin a dialogue among seated regions regarding nominations to World Board should be made using only submissions from regions, zones, the World Pool via the HRP and submissions received at the WSC.**

*Intent:* To begin a discussion to continue throughout the cycle until 2018 with the end result being that candidates proposed for World Board positions will be selected from regional or zonal recommendations, HRP or submissions from the floor.

*Maker:* California Mid-State Region

***Straw poll Proposal BH: lack of support 44-61-8-3***

*Proposal AO*

**That the second bullet of our Vision Statement - Every member inspired by the gift of recovery, experiences spiritual growth and fulfilment through service - which encompasses among other things, the topic of Atmosphere of Recovery in NA service be adopted as one of the IDT -Issue Discussion Topic- for this coming cycle.**

*Intent:* To create a prioritized IDT on service and spiritual growth.

*Maker:* Quebec Region

***Proposal AO was dispensed with in the Moving Forward session.***

*Proposal AJ*

**Fellowship Issue Discussion Topics (IDTs) will be selected based on the following process: By August 1 following the World Service Conference (WSC), NAWS will create a section on na.org for IDT submissions. Any member, group, area, region or zone will be able to add an item to the poll. Beginning February 1 in the year before the WSC the process of voting on the poll will start. Any member, group, area, region or zone will be able to vote on the choices in the poll. The poll will close on the final day as set by the Guide to World Services (GTWS) for regional motion submissions. The top six Issue Discussion Topics in the poll will be placed in the Conference Agenda Report and voted on in old business at the World Service Conference with the top three being the Issue Discussion Topics for that next conference cycle.**

*Intent:* To have more direct and specifically defined fellowship involvement in the creation and selection of Fellowship Issue Discussion Topics.

*Maker:* South Florida Region

***Straw poll Proposal AJ: support 59-51-4-3***

*Proposal L*

**To direct the WB to create a project plan to be included in the 2018 CAT to study sustainability of WCNA in the future.**

*Intent:* To increase sustainability of WCNA.

*Maker:* German Speaking Region

***Straw poll Proposal L: support 59-55-1-2***

*Proposal AB*

**Establish a rotation schedule for WCNA that holds WCNA outside the US every third convention.**

*Intent:* Make WCNA more sustainable.

*Maker:* Costa Rica Region

***Straw poll Proposal AB: lack of support 49-61-1-5***

*Proposal BN*

**To create a workgroup who shall develop a methodology to assess the progress of NAWS since the creation of a single unified board as a result of the World Services Inventory conducted in the mid to late 1990's.**

*Intent:* As a worldwide fellowship, we need to occasionally examine the performance of NAWS in order for the relationship of the worldwide fellowship and NAWS to remain focused and on course. This performance appraisal to be made by the worldwide fellowship appears to be overdue. This project will undoubtedly honor the theme of the 2016 WSC; Honesty, Trust, and Goodwill, thereby fostering unity and our common welfare which is in keeping with values and ideals alluded to in the First Tradition of Narcotics Anonymous.

*Maker:* Wisconsin Region

***Straw poll Proposal BN: lack of support 56-55-3-2***

Franney J (WB Chair) expressed deepest regret and respect to those who thought they would have an opportunity to present their proposals and have discussion. She acknowledged that moving through the proposals quickly in this manner, without discussion, only offered minimal input for the Board to consider. It may not be an accurate reflection of the will of the body. We may end up revisiting some of these ideas in some way. That doesn't save time, she said.

The session concluded with some closing announcements, as well as a series of thank-yous for all those who were involved in helping the Conference to take place. A brief video was shown thanking the outgoing trusted servants of the Conference for their years of service, including a memorial tribute to Bob G. Departing members of the World Board and HRP, and the departing co-facilitator were each given opportunities to say good-bye to the Conference.

The Conference adjourned at 3:53 pm with the Third Step prayer.

## APPENDIX A: STATISTICS ON PARTICIPANTS ATTENDING WSC 2016

- Of 115 seated regions, there are 112 RDs present. El Salvador, Greater Illinois, and Iran are not in attendance. [The 115 number does not include Le Nordet Region, which has folded, was removed from the list of Conference participants through a new business proposal.]
- Of the 112 Regional Delegates from seated regions present, 65 are from the US, 5 from Canada, and 42 from outside the US and Canada.
- We have 88 Alternate Delegates from seated regions attending, 61 from the US, 4 from Canada, and 23 from outside of the US or Canada.
- There are 148 men and 68 women among the Conference Participants—delegates, alternates, and World Board members
- This year’s conference participants are from 40 countries and we speak 26 languages (based on Serenity Prayer languages at the close of the First Things First session).
- There are 128 voting members seated on the floor of this WSC—112 delegates and 16 World Board members. In addition, there are 89 alternates, plus 4 HRP members, 2 cofacilitators, 3 translators, and 1 parliamentarian.
- This was the first WSC that Quisqueyana Region participated as a seated member.
- This Conference made the decision to seat three regions: Grande São Paulo Region, HOW Region, and Rio de Janeiro Region at the WSC.

## APPENDIX B: ROLL CALLS

<b>Region/Name</b>	<b>#1</b>	<b>#2</b>	<b>#3</b>	<b>#4</b>	<b>#5</b>
<b>ABCD Region</b>	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Alabama NW Florida Region</b>	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Alaska Region</b>	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Al-Sask Region</b>	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Aotearoa New Zealand Region</b>	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Argentina Region</b>	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Arizona Region</b>	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Arkansas Region</b>	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Australian Region</b>	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Baja Son Region</b>	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Best Little Region</b>	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Brazil Region</b>	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Brazil Sul Region</b>	1	1	1	1	1
<b>British Columbia Region</b>	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Buckeye Region</b>	1	1	1	1	1
<b>California Inland Region</b>	1	1	1	1	1
<b>California Mid-State Region</b>	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Canada Atlantic Region</b>	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Carolina Region</b>	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Central Atlantic Region</b>	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Central California Region</b>	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Chesapeake &amp; Potomac Region</b>	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Chicagoland Region</b>	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Chile Region</b>	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Colombia Region</b>	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Colorado Region</b>	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Connecticut Region</b>	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Costa Rica Region</b>	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Demark Region</b>	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Eastern New York Region</b>	1	1	1	1	0

<b>Region/Name</b>	<b>#1</b>	<b>#2</b>	<b>#3</b>	<b>#4</b>	<b>#5</b>
<b>Ecuador Region</b>	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Egypt Region</b>	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Finland Region</b>	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Florida Region</b>	1	1	1	1	1
<b>France Region</b>	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Free State Region</b>	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Georgia Region</b>	1	1	1	1	1
<b>German Speaking Region</b>	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Greater New York Region</b>	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Greater Philadelphia Region</b>	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Greece Region</b>	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Guatemala Region</b>	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Hawaii Region</b>	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Indiana Region</b>	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Iowa Region</b>	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Ireland Region</b>	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Israel Region</b>	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Italy Region</b>	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Japan Region</b>	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Kentuckiana Region</b>	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Lithuania Region</b>	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Lone Star Region</b>	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Louisiana Region</b>	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Metro-Detroit Region</b>	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Mexico Region</b>	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Michigan Region</b>	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Mid-America Region</b>	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Mid-Atlantic Region</b>	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Minnesota Region</b>	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Mississippi Region</b>	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Montana Region</b>	1	1	1	1	1

<b>Region/Name</b>	<b>#1</b>	<b>#2</b>	<b>#3</b>	<b>#4</b>	<b>#5</b>
<b>Mountaineer Region</b>	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Nebraska Region</b>	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Nepal Region</b>	1	1	1	1	1
<b>NERF - NE India Region</b>	1	1	1	1	1
<b>New England Region</b>	1	1	1	1	1
<b>New Jersey Region</b>	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Nicaragua Region</b>	1	1	1	1	1
<b>North Carolina Region</b>	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Northern California Region</b>	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Northern New England Region</b>	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Northern New Jersey Region</b>	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Northern New York Region</b>	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Norway Region</b>	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Ohio Region</b>	1	1	1	1	1
<b>OK Region</b>	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Ontario Region</b>	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Pacific Cascade Region</b>	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Panama Region</b>	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Peru Region</b>	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Philippines Region</b>	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Poland Region</b>	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Portugal Region</b>	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Quebec Region</b>	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Quisqueyana Region</b>	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Region 51</b>	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Region Del Coqui</b>	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Rio Grande Region</b>	1	1	1	1	1
<b>San Diego Imperial Region</b>	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Show-Me Region</b>	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Sierra Sage Region</b>	1	1	1	1	1
<b>SOSONA - Indian Region</b>	1	1	1	1	1

<b>Region/Name</b>	<b>#1</b>	<b>#2</b>	<b>#3</b>	<b>#4</b>	<b>#5</b>
South Africa Region	1	1	1	1	1
South Dakota Region	1	1	1	1	1
South Florida Region	1	1	1	1	1
Southern California Region	1	1	1	1	1
Southern Idaho Region	1	1	1	1	1
Spain Region	1	1	1	1	1
Sweden Region	1	1	1	1	1
Tejas Bluebonnet Region	1	1	1	1	1
Tri-State Region	1	1	1	1	1
UK Region	1	1	1	1	1
Upper Midwest Region	1	1	1	1	0
Upper Rocky Mountain Region	1	1	1	1	1
Uruguay Region	1	1	1	1	1
Utah Region	1	1	1	1	1
Venezuela Region	1	1	1	1	1
Volunteer Region	1	1	1	1	1
Washington/N Idaho Region	1	1	1	1	1
Western New York Region	1	1	1	1	1
Western Russia Region	1	1	1	1	1
Wisconsin Region	1	1	1	1	1
WB - Arne H	1	1	1	1	1
WB - Franney J	1	1	1	1	1
WB - Inigo C	1	1	1	1	1
WB - Irene	1	1	1	1	1
WB - Junior	1	1	1	1	1
WB - Mark H	1	1	1	1	1
WB - Mary B	1	1	1	1	1
WB - MaryEllen P	1	1	1	1	1
WB - Muk H	1	1	1	1	1
WB - Paul C	1	1	1	1	1
WB - Paul F	1	1	1	1	1

Region/Name	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5
WB - Ron B	1	1	1	1	0
WB - Ron M	1	1	1	1	1
WB - Tali M	1	1	1	1	1
WB - Tana A	1	1	1	1	1
WB - Tonia N	1	1	0	1	1
<b>Total participants present</b>	128	128	127	128	125
<b>Number of regions present</b>	112	112	112	112	110

<b>Old Business - only RDs vote</b>					
2/3 majority	75	75	75	75	74
Simple majority	57	57	57	57	56

<b>New Business - all participants</b>					
2/3 majority	86	86	85	86	84
Simple majority	65	65	64	65	63

**Seated but Not Attending this Conference:**

El Salvador Region

Greater Illinois Region

Iran Region

## APPENDIX C: DECISION-MAKING TERMINOLOGY

**Motion:** An item for decision during the Formal Old or New Business sessions. These consist of motions that were included in the *Conference Agenda Report* and motions to pass the 2016–2018 budget and project plans.

**Proposal:** An item for decision during the Old or New Business Discussion and Proposal Decisions sessions. These consist of proposed changes to motions and all new business items to decide on other than the project plans and budget.

**Straw poll:** This is a measure of support for an item, a pulse of the body. It is not a decision. Following are the terms used to measure the level of support.

**Unanimous support**

**Consensus support:** 80% or greater support

**Strong support:** 2/3 majority support

**Support:** simple majority support

**Lack of support:** less than simple majority support

**Strong lack of support:** less than 1/3 support

**Consensus not in support:** 20% or fewer support

**No support**

**Vote:** This is a decision. Motions and proposals that create or change policy or approve or change recovery literature require two-thirds of those present and voting to vote in favor for the motion or proposal to carry.

## APPENDIX D: FIPT BREAKOUT SESSION RESULTS

### **Illicit texts: What more can/should NAWS do?**

#### ***Educate & inform: 147***

- Educating the Fellowship (28)
- IDT—about issue – educate (28)
- Make workshops about gratitude and responsibility to not buy illicit literature. (22)
- To create a guide like a booklet to distribute in the groups to create a conscience about the damage of using illicit literature. (17)
- Create resource for service bodies to use with institutions that are using illicit literature—including picture of baby blue, etc. (13)
- Fellowship dialogue about grp conscience & “Fellowship Approved” (12)
- Develop bulletin to explain lawsuit & support with documentation (5)
- Raise awareness of how this issue conflicts with our primary purpose and affects newcomers (5)
- To create a poster and put it in the groups, informing of the benefits of using approved literature with assertive language (5)
- Discourage sales of illicit lit and merchandize that supports it at NA events – bulletin (4)
- Keep doing what we’re doing—education via the FIPT bulletin (3)
- Tie FIPT to Traditions (ex. Unity, grp consc., acceptance) (3)
- To share in my group what I learned at the WSC of what we achieved with our literature and be an example of not buying illicit literature. (2)

#### ***Dialogue/mediation: 53***

- Bring parties together for mediation (18)
- Dialogue w/NAWS & those who are behind the issue (18)
- Encourage unity through dialogue (8)
  - Mediation
  - Non-confrontative
- Invite internal & external entities to discuss this issue—not confrontation (5)
- Be accommodating – reunite – bring back to fold (4)

#### ***Legal action: 51***

- Legal or other action against companies printing literature (illicit) (26)
- Litigation (12)
- Relitigate (4)
- Take legal actions in those countries where these actions are viable. (4)
- Sue those involved (contact w/notice) (3)
- Can we remove the legal problem as we try to deal w/this? (2)

#### ***Other:***

- Support services – 5<sup>th</sup> Tradition don’t feed their fire (13)
- Publish gray form as an historical lit. (10)
- Support from NAWS to empower outreach (7)
- Sponsorship (5)
- We need to understand the conflict, why do they do this? (2)
- Add 2 chapters of Intro Guide and give it away (2).
- Members attend events that support sales and talk with those attending (1)
- Do nothing (1)
- Inventory (1)

- Coop this lit into FS-approved and publish it (0)
- Must pursue those who are affecting emerging NA communities (0)
- When you see someone offering illicit literature, ask to get as many as possible and destroy it. (0)

### **Registering Groups Using Illicit Lit: What more can/should NAWS do?**

#### ***Educate, clarify, inform: 131***

- Define illicit literature & what is approved lit – 5<sup>th</sup> edition? (28)
- IDT—about issue – educate (28)
- Go to meeting – ask to remove materials & say why (23)
- Conversation with groups using non-NA lit – Do they understand that this outside our principles? What do they want to do? (15)
- Clear definition of NA group/mtg. – keep F.A. Lit. only (15)
- Presentation developed to help explain issues (9)
- Raise awareness of groups to guide us with the FIPT (7)
- Organize learning days focused on the FIPT (6)
- Develop bulletin to explain lawsuit & support with documentation (5)
- Use multiple points of contact to communicate w/group or ASC/RSC (4)
- Other media resources e.g. videos, posters (3)
- Keep doing what we're doing—education via the FIPT bulletin (3)

#### ***Don't register/remove: 104***

- Not register them, give them information about FIPT (23)
- Warn them first, remove them if they aren't willing to comply with the Group Booklet (17)
- No—not using NA approved literature (16)
- Group Booklet—pg 10 & 12 highlight in Group Booklet & not register (16)
- Remove groups who do not use F.A. lit. (12)
- Remove groups using non-NA literature from NAWS site & strongly suggest that area and regional sites do the same (11)
- NAWS asks local sites if any of their groups are using non-NA literature so they can be removed from na.org (5)
- Remove groups from list (4)
- Take action NOT to register them in the NAWS database (0)

#### ***Revise Literature/Create New Literature: 58***

- Education at group level – update Group Booklet/IP2 (26)
- Have an IP to help educate members (21)
- Group Booklet—only current NA lit be used (page 2) (11)

#### ***Register: 20***

- Register the groups & treat them (inform them) with spiritual principles (7)
- Send approved lit. to the group when they ask for registration, register them (5)
- Add meeting title to meeting finder app so members can choose to attend or not (5)
- List these groups as something other than recovery meetings (3)

#### ***Other:***

- Be proactive (9)
- Cut off services & meeting (3)
- Flag them with asterisk to let everybody know they use “illicit literature” (1)
- Regions & Areas ought to be the guarantors of the functioning of the FIPT (1)
- Encourage them to start their own fellowship (0)

- White paper (0)
- Offer suggestions to caller (0)

**ASC/RSC Websites Posting NA Literature: What more can/should NAWS do?**

***Ask first, then take further action: 131***

- Notice prior to action (26)
- RSC web servant can remove ASC that has PDFs (23)
- Remove offending website make them duplicate your PDFs (22)
- Take action, close down the website (19)
- When all else fails: ultimate sanction to contact ISP (18)
- Notice before taking action (14)
- Inform them, and if they don't react to the warning, to shut it down, talking to the webmaster. Follow up with necessary action. (9)

***Educate/Inform: 103***

- Education: raise awareness about FIPT issues (29)
- Educate the Fellowship what actions can be taken (27)
- Generate letter from WSC not just NAWS (similar to BT5 letter)—simple, comprehensible, and beautiful (27)
- Broad-based “campaign” – videos, posters, etc. to educate members on consequences with concrete examples (15)
- Contact – please stop (3)
- Where does \$ go – digital, on website, FD efforts (2)

***Ask, but don't take action that may remove meeting info: 25***

- Be very careful about removing groups. (13)
- Continued communication but don't affect the primary purpose of providing meeting info (8)
- Don't dare remove (close down) website (4)

***Work with other local service bodies: 27***

- Partner w/RSCs to encourage ASCs to comply w/FIPT & protect our lit (9)
- Explore an incentive package to those ASC/RSCs that are willing to listen (9)
- Local action at ASC or RSC with NAWS support if required (4)
- Continue to communicate with regions and work in partnership with them when there are areas that are posting literature in their community (3)
- Concerted effort with RDs and ADs to discuss issue—e.g. the sessions @ this WSC (2)

***Other:***

- Don't endorse – illegal activity (13)
- RSC/ASC guarantee through their trusted servants: (11)
  - To inform
  - To motivate the change to utilize NA approved literature before taking actions
- NAW rapid response (10)
- Do nothing (7)
- Don't do anything (5)
- Teach them thru the action of shutting them down (0)
- Contact authorities (0)
- Effort to transfer literature dependent to 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition (0)
- Allow permission to continue for 2 years with no reprisals (0)

## APPENDIX E: FUTURE OF THE WSC 2 BREAKOUT SESSION RESULTS

<b>NO CHANGE IN REPRESENTATION BUT OTHER CHANGES</b>	
What can we do to make the WSC more effective and more able to accommodate growth? How can we sustain our current model? What specific ideas do you have for other changes?	
<b>Idea</b>	<b>Dots</b>
More effective time management: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vote once</li> <li>• No formal business sessions</li> <li>• RDs workshop all proposals in breakouts</li> <li>• Take care of business first</li> </ul>	31
WSC is a planning session	28
Create CAR at WSC for next WSC	21
Old business only voted on, not debated	19
Changes in function of WSC <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No business sessions</li> <li>• All discussion</li> <li>• Develop CAR at WSC</li> </ul>	16
3-year conference cycle	15
Redefine the concept of region so that not any service body might be a region <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Associated to a minimum number of meetings</li> <li>• Take it away from geographical concept (i.e. sub zones)</li> </ul>	15
Change the business process <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discuss; straw poll; amend if needed; vote once</li> </ul>	14
3-cycle study/implementation for a new model of WSC	13
Use webinars more effectively—deliver reports by webinar and have Q&A at WSC for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NAWS report</li> <li>• Orientation</li> <li>• Budget, etc</li> </ul>	12
4-year cycle <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 years build and discuss</li> <li>• 2 years decision making</li> </ul>	11
Electronic voting of “Old Business”	10
Several large discussions (groups of regions) rather than 1 full group	8
3-year conference cycle	7
Use conference to plan business for next WSC	7
Regions adopt unseated regions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Zones facilitated collaboration between those regions</li> </ul>	7
Clearly define procedural process (solidify) create moratorium on procedural changes for 2 cycles	6

Handle old business before WSC and elections	6
Closer to CBDM <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Simple rules</li> <li>• More discussion</li> </ul>	6
Model that allows for “unlimited” growth	5
Tech uses	5
3-year cycle	4
New venue/new location	4
More RD preparation (training and orientation)	3
Separate RDs from ADs: 2 rooms <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RDs make decisions</li> <li>• ADs receive info</li> </ul>	3
Transition to more time on discussion and less ambitious agenda	2
Elections only, no other decisions	2
RD assembly to offer ideas/input via zones to WSC	1
Use breakouts to discuss motions/proposals (discussion portion)	1
Define & change the function of WSC <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Need WSC inventory first, done by 3rd party</li> </ul>	1
Regions that can afford it fund their delegates by at least 50%	1
That the number of WB members be representative and proportioned to the number of regions outside and within the US	1
Create a workplan to analyze the cost savings to move WSC to a different location	0
Informal inventory of WSC	0

<b>ZONAL SEATING</b>	
What specific ideas do you have for zonal seating? Existing zones? Something else? Number of delegates per zone? Ideas/Criteria for future seating of zones that request it?	
<b>Idea</b>	<b>Dots</b>
7-10 Zones—Geography/language/cultures <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Zones provide services; WSC does strategic planning</li> <li>• Not necessarily zones as they currently exist, but some may remain same</li> <li>• Options for delegation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Equal voting but different delegation: some zones have more delegates</li> <li>○ Or equal delegations</li> <li>○ Or proportional delegation based on meeting #s</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	28
5 Delegates per zone <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Existing zones with exception of US</li> <li>• Allows for regional splits</li> <li>• Purpose defined by needs</li> <li>• More resources for zones, less for WSC</li> <li>• WSC meets less often—3 year cycle</li> </ul>	21

Zones as they currently exist (for a start)	21
Clearly defined and designed what a zone is <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• i.e. continental zones, SE Asia, Mid East, Russia, etc.</li> <li>• unify existing zones and have 4 zones in US</li> <li>• depending on size, i.e. Russia, could be 2 zones</li> <li>• total zones = 16</li> </ul>	15
Formal part of service structure <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Including accountability</li> <li>• Clearly defined</li> </ul>	14
Combine US and Zones to reduce numbers	14
Adopt a percentage model to allow for growth/change and membership of zone	13
Begin with existing zones	10
The number of delegates per zone be determined by the number of meetings/regions per forum; representation is rotated every two cycles	10
Method to capture/ensure true representation	9
Collaboration between zones: Sharing ESH	8
2-delegate team	8
Zonal representation with regional proxies	7
Define Criteria for Zones (precursor to formalizing zones in SS)	7
Current zones divided by cultural boundaries and relevant needs i.e. EDM	7
Equal representation based on registered meetings with NAWS	6
Redefine zones <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bring ideas to zones</li> <li>• Business at zones</li> <li>• Planning at WSC</li> </ul>	6
Geographic boundaries i.e. WSZF	2
Common understanding of zone (form and function)	2
Zones by demographic likeness not geography	2
One international/world conference <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fewer delegates</li> <li>• Open local conferences ensure the voice of NA is heard locally</li> </ul>	2
Some WB seated by zone	1
Admit new zones that have the characteristics of a forum	1
Create workgroup with conference participants to create zonal model	1
Self-determination for local conferences (including representation)	0
Facilitate discussions at RSC level to build understanding and consensus	0
Connect zonal seating to SSP as “next step”	0
Break up zones by time zones	0

**SOME OTHER BASIS FOR CHANGE IN REPRESENTATION**

What ideas do you have for other models of representation? What are the specifics of that idea?

<b>Idea</b>	<b>Dots</b>
Continental representation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rep for every continent &amp; WSC every 2 years</li> <li>• Use technology between meetings</li> <li>• Off year coming together as a continent (i.e. N. America, S.A., Asia, Africa, Europe)</li> <li>• Scalable and allows for growth</li> <li>• Change by countries</li> </ul>	10
Split continents into quadrants and each quadrant sends a number of delegates to WSC <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Will need flexibility re: geography and implementation time</li> </ul>	6
Geographical boundaries: state or country in regards to number of meetings	5
Multi-regional or zonal or any other name <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Representation according to number of meetings per country/state, depending on case</li> </ul>	4
Continental bodies meet @WSC <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continental service bodies are decision-making bodies</li> <li>• Scalable to accommodate growth</li> </ul>	2
Temporary solution: allow regions to share seat/vote without losing their seat	2
1-group 1-vote technology-based conference	1
US Continent and WSC combo	0

## APPENDIX F: FUTURE OF THE WSC 3 BREAKOUT SESSION RESULTS

This session's opening **large group discussion** focused on Future of the WSC workshops held Fellowship-wide before the World Service Conference.

**Participants were asked to identify roadblocks and what worked and didn't work for them in workshopping this topic.** A common response was that there is lack of information regarding the Future of the WSC topic as well as the overall NA service structure. Some identified lack of relevance to local issues, general apathy, and resistance to another level of service as roadblocks.

When listing **what didn't work** for them in workshopping this topic, some participants reported that there was a lack of understanding and knowledge of the WSC, and even the perception that the WSC is a "holiday." Others said there was a need to better break down the information, that it was "buried in the CAR," that we should explain where the issue originated and who brought it up, and "meet people where they are" (for example use fewer acronyms). Some indicated that the topic was perceived as being connected with a drive to push the Service System Proposals and that the relationship to WSC seating made it a disunifying topic. Practical challenges included needing to reorient new groups of trusted servants due to turnover, not having enough time to cover the topic, and holding the workshop at a convention. Finally, presenting a global perspective to communities that have local perspective was also identified as a challenge.

In describing **what worked well**, while some participants considered holding a workshop on this topic at a convention a hindrance, others said convention and service symposium workshops were successful for them. Success was achieved by holding separate workshops to cover the CAR and the Future of WSC, taking workshops to members, and nurturing mutual support by attending others' workshops.

Some attracted members by using an inviting title (like Unity Day) and serving food, translating all materials, and by appealing to sponsorship families to participate. Workshop formats and processes also affected what worked well, including seeding discussions at the area service committee prior to the workshop, planting the questions and engaging in discussion slowly and steadily over time, using interactive workshops, and providing multiple ways to vote or provide input. Participants said it helped to appeal to members' hearts and offer a global perspective (perhaps by showing Fellowship videos) to inspire members in global unity.

Other practices that worked well were providing Role of Zones and Planning our Future material at CAR workshops to explain the current situation and zonal service efforts and inviting previous regional delegates to provide historical perspective. In some workshops there were small group discussions to connect to common principles like honesty, trust, goodwill. Involving communities in the creation process to improve what we have, involving younger members in creating their future, and reminding members of our opportunity to be a part of the change and have a voice were also shared as approaches that worked well.

### **Small group discussions**

#### **Question #1: What would it take to build consensus?**

##### **Communication**

- Need information – clarification, preparation, and prioritization; knowledge and common/clear understanding of all info; fundamental understanding of our service system in simple terms/simple information; educate to involve; present information not opinion [6]; more information and more debate about economic topics and effectiveness
- Presentation of ideas; be consistent in workshop presentation [2]

- Give outline of NAWS/WSO zone functions; focus on accomplishments of WSC/NAWS; share experience/struggles with other zones/regions; show world map at zone/regions/meetings
- Lay out problems to service bodies; Start with smaller idea (i.e., region paying own way to WSC); take ideas back to the fellowship and take the time to build it together “re-structure”
- Engage local fellowship, those willing to participate, newer members; Be willing to take Fellowship input; involve every level of service; engage NA groups for input; ensure all voices are heard [6]; keep with what works...present for review and input somehow; Pose the question #1 to the Fellowship; use technology to achieve greater participation;
- Learn to listen/active listening to Fellowship [3]; Delegates visit other ASC/RSC; Conversation started at world level; Less debate, more solutions
- Lots of workshops and discussions, conversations at large service events; plenty of fellowship-wide discussions/multiple discussions [2]

### **Planning**

- Scan fellowship; inventory groups, ASC/RSC, NAWS strengths
- Strategic planning at WSC for the future of WSC
- Criteria for seated regions be reviewed i.e. existing regions that don't meet current criteria
- Prioritize needs (resources \$\$) differing needs challenge consensus; Emphasize the benefits (money savings)

### **Time**

- We reach consensus by allowing enough time to discuss with the local Fellowship including translation; Time issue solution – 6yrs so far
- Need more time to process translated information and obtain a conscience with more information/informed conscience; longer review time for CAR and CAT, Extend the cycle between WSC

### **Options**

- Take most popular answers, create a workgroup to research options and create pros, cons, and consequences
- Workshop about options, Need to provide more than one option, Offer just few options (clear picture of outcome), Short term trial of different options, 2 option for representation determined by zone/region

### **Decision Making**

- Methods: try to find things that work @WSC: 80/20 rule; round robin then straw poll = more discussion 2/3 needed to pass; Use simple majority to make decisions; come to consensus: establish a threshold – how many is the willing? When does it die? Prioritize feedback, be transparent, electronic polling, update discussions often
- Bring votes to WSC, take action to regions for next WSC, no discussion on old business, take regional votes only; trust delegates to change “vote” based on new info about challenges at WSC; decisions made at zones
- Agree to support if you don't necessarily agree so as not to get in the way; Don't block an idea we aren't strongly against it – just because we don't agree; Keep the agreement

- Use of CBDM 100% of the time, stop use of 2/3 majority (Roberts rules); crap or get off the pot regarding CBDM; raise the bar for consensus; that we make decisions together, building the final proposal not forgetting P.P.

### **Leadership/Mentorship/Training/Roles**

- We reach consensus by picking the right trusted servant for the right commitment (who understand Traditions and Concepts)
- Educate addicts who already have access to our message about addicts who don't have full access; get the discussion going and focused on primary purpose [2]
- More workshops and training; facilitation resources; Leadership and mentoring
- Common understanding of why we are here – to carry our regions conscience or take care of NA as a whole; Need to be on a level of maturity; Apply 1st Tradition—forego my opinion for the common welfare; what's in it for me?
- Redefine the role of the RD by the region; Change language from represent to participate

### **Local Levels**

- We reach consensus by not disturbing the local service structure but still changing the function and/or form of WSC
- We need to assure the local Fellowship that they will not lose their voice (vote)
- Exploration of how this will affect our “voice”
- Consider consequences at the regional and zonal levels

### **Principles**

- Separate legal and financial information centering us spiritually instead of distrust
- Understand that the service system IS changeable; be open to change [2]; know the consequences of no change; look back @road blocks, capture Fellowship on each level
- Trial and error; Nothing final/set in stone, jump in and give it a go; “leap of faith” give up representation; courage to take chances/address the fear of unknown/change [2]
- Compromise and address fears; Inspire passion, Commitment, do the right thing for the right reason; More rigorous application of our spiritual principles: faith, trust, hope, H.O.W humility, and good will [2]
- Courage to actually follow our guidelines and ideals; Trust in the process; We reach consensus by trusting the delegates and the service structure [2]; Open mindedness/help members find this; Invite HP, open-mindedness and listening; Delegates practice spiritual principles

### **Miscellaneous**

- Less US-centric
- Less protagonism
- If what is blocked conflicts with our T or C...
- Punch and pie [food and drink]
- Good idea and feel comfortable in your arena

### **Question #2: What questions must we ask the fellowship?**

#### **Sharing WSC Experience and Information**

- Present the best ideas from the conference
- Share experience to teach understanding and comprehension of what the WSC is actually like.

- What forum can you use (e.g., Learning Day) and use this to survey members and help them understand more about WSC.
- Future of the WSC toolkit – (not presentation)
- We need to explain why this is important, share experience of WSC and the need for change, Vision statement, history (how far we have come etc.); Use personal experience at WSC to help them see the problem.

### **General Information about the Service Structure**

- How do we engage members in the conversation when they don't have an understanding of a global fellowship?
- Understand the roles within the service structure
- What information do you have about our service structure, the challenges it faces and what our roles are in it? Do they understand why we have a service structure? How do you envision service structure (multiple choices)

### **Participation in the Process**

- Involve members in the process-how do you want to convey your input and what input do you want to have a say in? What will it take to get you involved? Why is this important to you? Allow them to be invested in the invention of the idea.
- Ask local fellowship these 3 questions [from the workshop session profile]
- How do we find out what the Fellowship wants? What do they want and what would make them feel comfortable with moving forward? [2]
- Why don't you care?
- How does this affect me, my home group?/In what ways does change affect your group? [2]

### **Building Consensus—Open-mindedness and Willingness**

- Are you willing to be a part of the solution? Are you willing to be open /try something new?
- What are you afraid will happen if things change? Why?
- What do we need to do to get to a point that we all can live with?

### **Questions about the WSC**

- Do you know what the WSC is, its purpose, its role? What do you think WSC should look like? Do you think we need a worldwide global body like the ASC? What would that body do?
- What to expect from WSC? What are you looking for from the conference? What do you want the WSC to be/do [3] List top reasons to come together. What do you think conference participants do? Do you really care what happened at the conference?
- How do they feel this conference can be better managed? How to optimize at the WSC? [2] How to make the WSC more sustainable? What changes are necessary with WSC procedures?
- Is it sustainable to put on a larger WSC?
- Where do you see us (WSC) in 60 years - consider using the questions that were put to us.

### **WSC Participation and Representation**

- Are you willing to give up your seat for the greater good? Are regions ready to lose representation?
- Are you ready to pay for your delegates?

- How does your representative inform you about what the benefits are of representing you is? Do you see the benefit, if so what is it? What do you want from your representation?
- Would we feel represented if the system of representation were changed?
- Do we need to come to WSC? And why?
- What do you like, what don't you like? What is wrong? Do you feel your needs being met? Locally? Culturally?
- Do you feel distant from the conference? Do you feel someone is talking to you or do you feel someone is listening to you?
- What do you need to feel your voice is being heard? What does it mean to you to have a voice, and how is a vote different than a voice? Are you afraid your vote will not be heard?
- How do we explore the power imbalance of current representation? (For example: look at California's over representation and African, Middle East, Asia's under representation) Why are regions that have seating representation in large urban cities still not get representation on the micro level?
- What type of representation can best open the doors to addicts who are missing from our meetings?

#### **Questions about Seating Options**

- What do you think of these two ideas?
  - zonal seating (clearly defined)
  - one addict, one vote, no delegates and regions, zones sponsoring other regions and zones
- Use a survey with simple sentences: What do you think about zonal rep/diff./other representation?
- How do you rank the options available? Bring the three options available to the fellowship and workshop it. Which of these options is most sustainable/feasible/spiritual?
- Please provide your suggestions to work into an acceptable, viable solution.
- Existing US regions share rotate seat at WSC (same state)

#### **Questions about Zones**

- What is your understanding about zones? Why do zones exist? Do you know their function?
- What does a zone look like to you? Does zones represent the fellowship? Should zones have special workers?
- How they would feel about doing formal business in their zone or what else they recommend? Would you like to have decisions closer (zone)
- What kind of services could zone provide? What services provided by WSC/NAWS could be shift for zone? What FD can the zone do? With money being saved?
- Why are you afraid of adding another layer of service?
- What would you like to see in zonal seating?
- How do we go from regions to zones?

#### **Fellowship Development/Growth**

- How do we secure a global fellowship for the addict not born yet? How can we envision a worldwide Fellowship? Who are we missing globally (countries and continents)
- Do you feel connected to your brothers and sisters abroad? Would you want to? What would that look like? What would the impact be?

- What can we do for our neighbors? (For example: Groups that do not yet exist) What are you available to do to contribute to NA's growth? How can we connect addicts trusted servants seeking recovery who do not have a meeting, find a meeting?
- How can we stay spiritual grow the fellowship and effective use of our funds
- Do they understand how everything affects NA globally/there are global issues? [2]
- Where do you see NA in 5, 10, 20 years

#### **Trust**

- What will it take for you to trust the service body?
- Why do you distrust NAWS?
- What do we need in order to strengthen trust?

#### **Miscellaneous**

- Today are we taking the right path toward a spiritual result?
- Where are our old timers in service?
- What is our: Identification – primary purpose unity through shared experiences just want to be heard – agree with the majority voice
- In what way do we help NAWS plan and [how do we] cooperate with that?
- Turn the WSC into a planning session
- Until when will we depend on the sale of literature?
- Use fun and food to make service more attractive
- Where do you think the books come from?
- What process had to be employed to create a book?

### **Question #3: How can we frame this discussion in a way that avoids roadblocks?**

#### **Framing Communication**

- Share the big picture/ Involve them in the big picture [2] Limit the information—not too much at a time/ Don't overwhelm with info [2] Keep giving people information/maintain open dialogue. Break it down. K.I.S.S. Share with group leaders the information about what is happening in reality in a friendly way. Provide clarity in what we are discussing. Give people an opportunity to participate or not. How can we provide you the info you want to know about what's going on
- Focus on the basics: if they don't see the problem can't fix it. Help addicts understand how this will affect their home group. Need to have shared understanding of the benefits. Present the benefits of making a change and the need for it in an attractive way. Present options. Frame discussion as: How can WSC help you, your group, and your area? Be very specific about difficulties with current WSC. Ensure members understand process at WSC.
- History of planning our future video. More history videos/Use the tools given to us: zonal maps, videos, etc./Use visual information, pictures, media [3]. Present our global fellowship in a way that connects with our spirit and heart (i.e. the zonal or fellowship development videos)
- Present challenges and ask for solutions. Extract ideas from each person in order to achieve the same solution. Achievable changes and goals/quick wins. Never point out problems without solutions?
- Ask specifically what the greatest concern/What is the greatest fear? [2]. Understand your fears & offer solutions. Stop trying to frame it and ask questions. Stick to open questions
- Connect and educate at service events and workgroups

- Use words – participation vs. representation and efficiency vs. manageable. Reframe=not broken (WSC) but we need to become more effective in what we do. Demonstrate that we are subject to change.
- Stop talking about past/Focus on future/Envision the future [3].
- Present the economic reality and the unproductiveness of futile discussions

### **Encouraging Participation**

- Establish timeline/ Set agenda/time frame to address the issue [2].
- Figure out a way to get addicts interested in the discussion at all. New language that may get addicts interested. Tease them out.
- Make it fun and interesting. Game or app to engage them. Serve lots of food
- Be enthusiastic/Enthusiasm, passion and attractive [2] Acting and doing in ways that are attractive/Address it with a good attitude [2]. Share recovery stories creating empathy. Emphasize the positive
- Engage in a 2-way conversation with fellowship. Frame it as an inquiry as opposed to “telling” them what and how it needs to be... Active listening. Involve all in round table discussion. Willingness to take fellowship input. Keep debating the topic.
- Inform that WSC wants members to help develop changes; Engage new members/Keep everybody involved/Be INCLUSIVE. Help them connect. Promote unity. [3] Create an atmosphere of trust that invites people to take ownership. Emphasize the fact that this is your decision because this is your fellowship! Let them be the decision maker. Taking decision for the whole. Change has to start at the top, the group level.
- Apply effective leadership, respecting the process. Inspire trust in the World Board. Listen – express they are heard
- Invite the road blockers to workshop/present.

### **Fellowship Development/Growth**

- Where do you want to see our fellowship in 5 years? Identify the prize. We are asking for your help to grow our Fellowship into the future.
- Keep discussion focused on helping the still suffering addict, not procedural stuff. Tie this discussion to our primary purpose. We’re all in this together, we have brothers and sisters who need to be at the table with us and we need a new system to bring them into the discussion.
- Global responsibility. Remind them that WSC has a WORLD vision.
- Create a legacy for your grandchildren.

### **Principles**

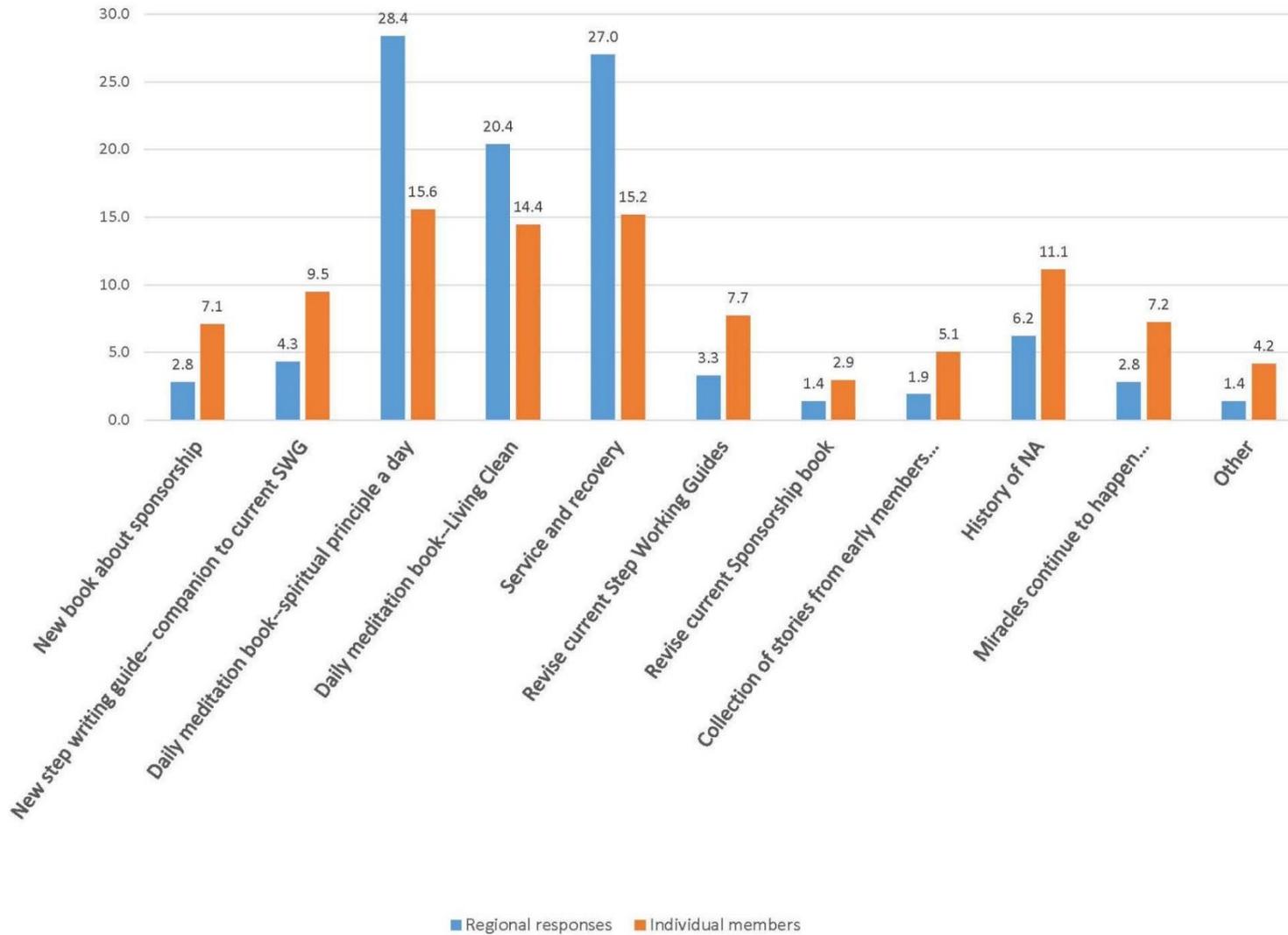
- As an RD/RDA, to understand which change to accept, that there are differing opinions to accept with love.
- Be flexible in what we hear and think in order to arrive at an idea for the fellowship.
- Use tools of consensus for decision making. / Compromise. Ask them to remain OPEN-MINDED. Trust
- We need to have a spiritual conversation to focus on our needs.
- Reminder – Unity: we are one global fellowship. You are the fellowship, you are the world

### **Miscellaneous**

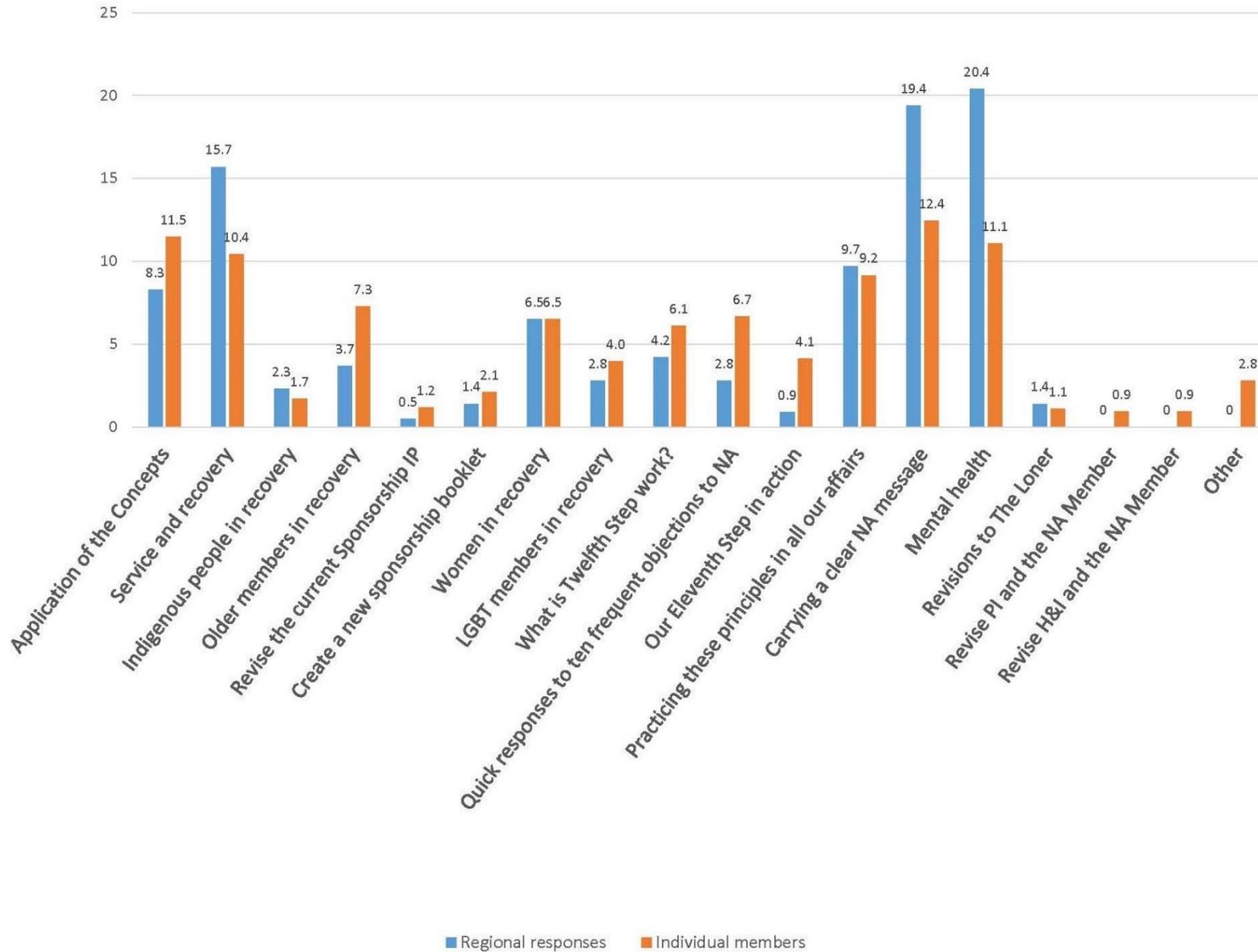
- By letting the fellowship know how well it works, it works great...just try it.
- Home group just want to get the job done

# APPENDIX G: CAR SURVEY RESULTS

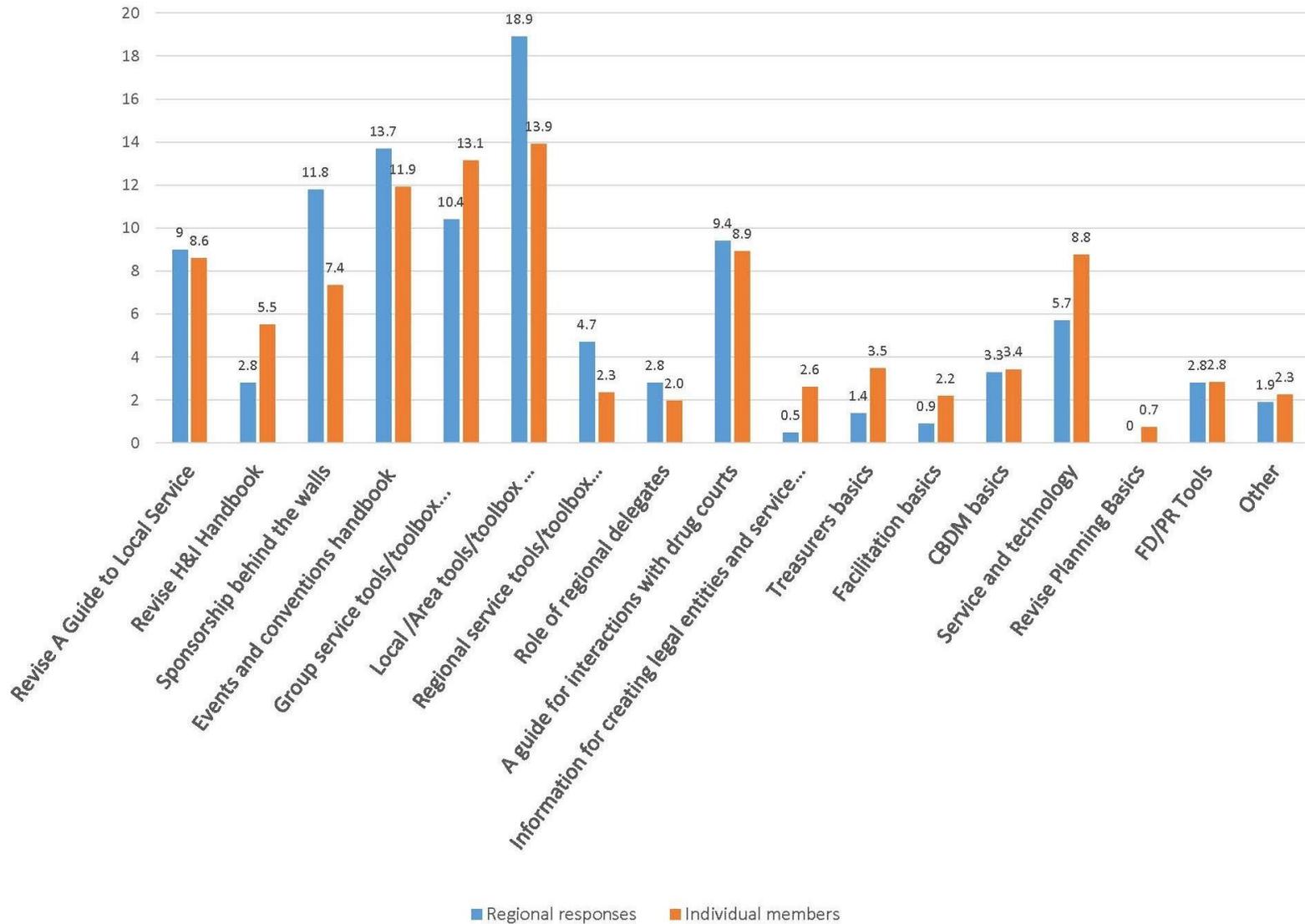
## 1. Book-length Recovery Material--Pick two (percentages)



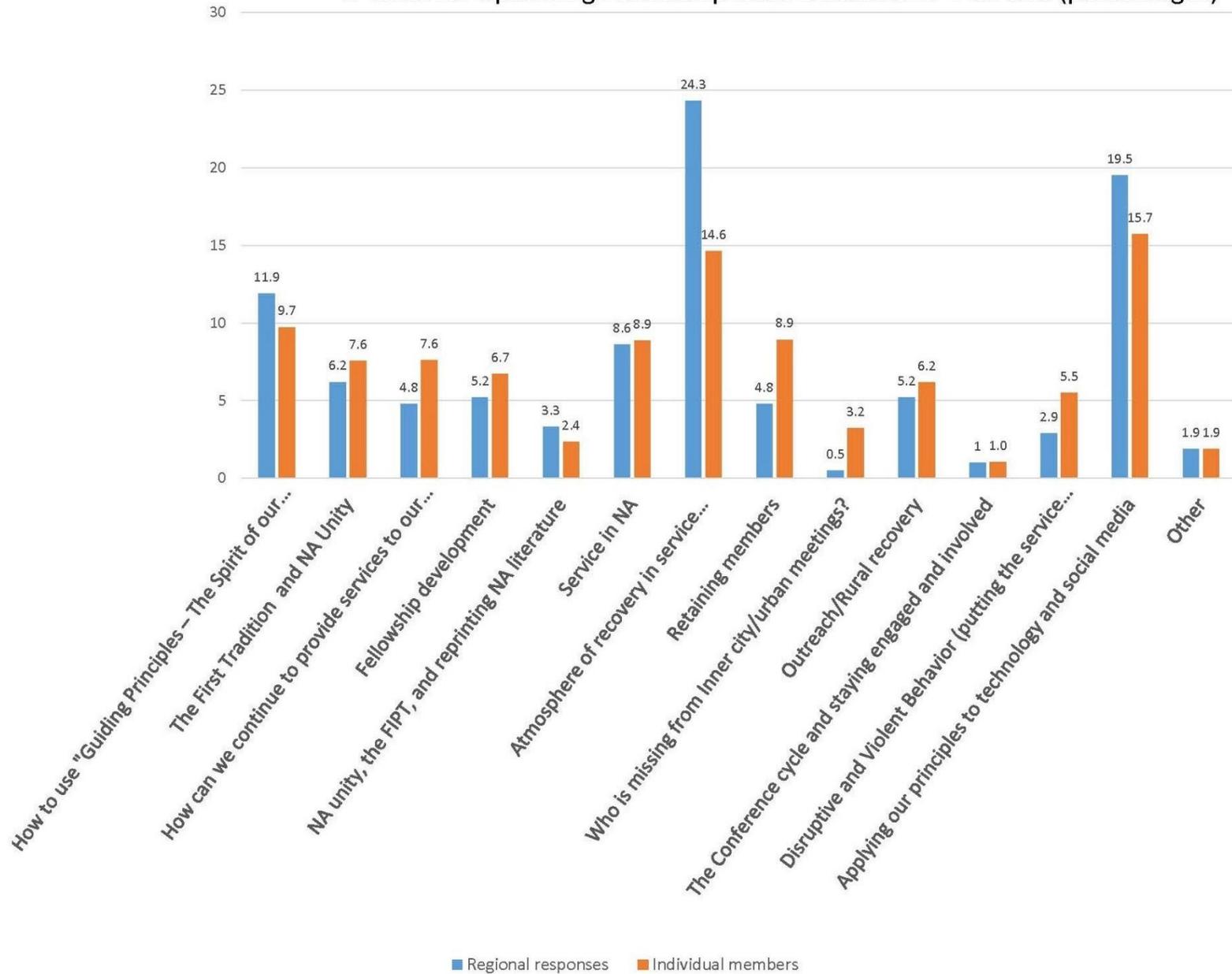
## 2. Booklet- or Pamphlet-length Recovery Material--Pick two (percentages)



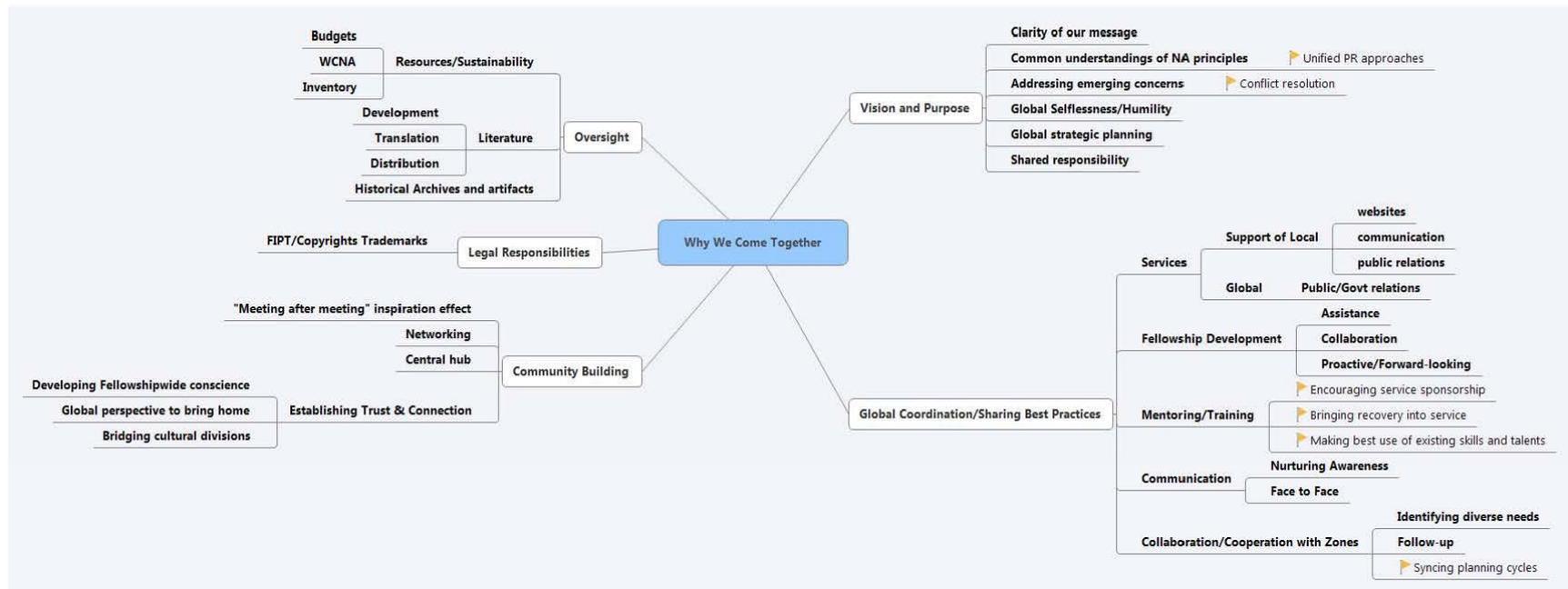
### 3. What pieces do you believe will meet the needs of NA service in the next 2-6 years?--Pick two (percentages)



#### 4. Ideas for Upcoming Fellowship Issue Discussions--Pick two (percentages)



## Why We Come Together Mind Map - Updated WSC 2016



\* flagged items represent additions based on WSC 2016 session

# Needs of NA Mind Map - Updated WSC 2016



\* flagged items represent additions based on WSC 2016 session

APPENDIX I: REGIONAL MAP

# Regions Around the World

## Nearly 67,000 Weekly Meetings Worldwide (April 2016)

