Narcotics Anonymous World Services, Inc.
Approved World Board Minutes
22-25 April 2009

APPROVED

JUN 2 7 2009

BY:

Wednesday 22 April

World Board: Arne Hassel-Gren, Craig Robertson, Franney Jardine, Jim Buerer, Mark Hersh, Mary Banner, Mukam Harzenski-Deutsch, Odilson Gomes Braz Junior, Paul Craig, Piet de Boer, Ron Blake, Ron Hofius, Tom McCall and Antonia Nikolinakou

World Board not present: Michael Cox, Ron Miller,

Staff: Anthony Edmondson, Becky Meyer, Becky Jamison, Bob Jordan, Bob Stewart, Chris Corning, Colin Sevareid, De Jenkins, Debbie Hall, Eileen Perez, Elaine Wickham, Fatia Birault, Jane Nickels, Johnny Lamprea, Nick Elson, Roberta Tolkan, Steve Lantos, Steve Rusch, Shane Colter, Travis Koplow.

Part I in the creation of the 2010-2012 Strategic Plan

Thursday 23 April

World Board: Arne Hassel-Gren, Craig Robertson, Franney Jardine, Jim Buerer, Mark Hersh, Mary Banner, Mukam Harzenski-Deutsch, Odilson Gomes Braz Junior, Paul Craig, Piet de Boer, Ron Blake, Ron Hofius, Tom McCall and Antonia Nikolinakou

World Board not present: Michael Cox and Ron Miller

Service System: Bob Gray, Earl Williams, Jr., Jean-Pierre Beauchesne, JJ Johnson, Jose Martins, Matt Schmeck, Sisko Hirvi, Tana Agostini, Tim Smith, and Travis Felton

Staff: Anthony Edmondson, Becky Meyer, Becky Jamison, Bob Jordan, Bob Stewart, Chris Corning, Colin Sevareid, De Jenkins, Eileen Perez, Elaine Wickham, Jane Nickels, Johnny Lamprea, Nick Elson, Steve Lantos, Steve Rusch, Shane Colter, Travis Koplow

Focus and Direction for Service System project

Session – Revised Outcomes April 2009

Impact

What are the outcomes we hope to accomplish by addressing this issue? What are the consequences of not addressing the issue at this time?

<u>Outcomes</u>

- Greater cooperation (leverage of all assets) and unity in achieving a *common vision* - Global

- A system that drives all to the same goals, yet allows for diverse means to get there (to meet diverse community needs); a *system* for service that allows for greater flexibility in structure

- Encourage more members to engage in service and to stimulate development of leadership
  - o Greater spiritual development of members

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- o Members see value in participating in service as a vital part of recovery
- ♦ Healthier service atmosphere grounded in spiritual principles
- ♦ All parts of the service structure understand their value and are empowered to contribute (time, talent, treasure)
- ♦ More open flow of information/communication throughout the system (including accurate information on members)
- ♦ Instill a culture of planning and creativity within all levels of the structure
- ♦ Positive impact on external recognition, credibility and respect for NA
- ♦ System that is sustainable, feasible, can be implemented, and is adaptable to needs (requires understanding and awareness of internal/external factors for change)
- ♦ Moving from a system of "limitations" to a system of opportunity with at its base an understanding and agreement of core principles
- ♦ Ownership to outcomes not to structure/process
- ♦ Save lives

Consequences of No Action

- ♦ Weakened ability to fulfill primary purpose
- ♦ Stagnation and decline of communities
- ♦ Decline in NA reputation
- ♦ Increasing frustration; departure of members
- ♦ Lack of trust (when don't manage service delivery efficiently)
- ♦ Loss of faith – deplete energy of recovery

Discussion Question

What is the level and scope of discussion needed on this issue?

> **How can we build a system* of service within NA that is driven by unity of purpose, and that allows for flexibility in meeting the diverse service needs and goals of our NA communities?**
>
> *The components of a System are: structure, process, people and resources that come together in the most efficient and effective way possible to achieve a specific purpose/vision.

Possible Sub-Issues or Related Issues (that should be coordinated with this discussion)

1. Adoption of a common vision through the service system.
2. Examination of structure based on the need for certain roles/functions within the system and the need for flexibility.
3. Development of qualified, committed leaders within the system.

4. Adequate flow of resources within the system to support service activity (and member ownership/responsibility for this).

5. Communication/flow of information within the system – what is needed?

6. Governance and decision-making within the system (e.g., representation, voice vs. vote, Conference seating, etc.).

Issue Implications and Considerations

Who will be affected by the outcome of this issue and how? What are the important considerations (ethical, pragmatic, etc.) that should be taken into account as we discuss this issue?

Ethical Considerations

- The system designed has to honor cultural differences around the world

- Concepts must be presented in ways that all can understand (even in some case to those outside of the system)

- The system must be one that members can operate (feasible, clear)

- There must be full access to service and the process by all (service is a critical part of recovery) . . . members with the desire and will to participate should be able to

- Structure can't be a barrier to any addict having access to NA

- Diversity can't be a barrier to access

- Any member anywhere should be able to expect and receive an agreed upon minimum level of quality service and member experience

- System to provide for participation and access for every level of recovery

- System must support entry of new (potential) leaders – opportunities for those at different development (rate of growth) levels

Pragmatic Considerations

- Current methods of communication regarding this issue may be hampered by those not open to change

- Need a process to gather input/buy-in and active participation by all those affected

- There are factions that feel differently about the current system (some don't see the need for change)

- Implementation will need to engage those who may be more resistant

- Structural change can be very emotional

- How to send a message to effective service bodies: not that 'it's not working', but 'how can we make it even better'

- Must stress the benefit/outcomes of addressing this issue

- Messaging, packaging and timing on this issue will be important when communication to *current* leaders in the system (they will perceive they have the most to lose??)

- Need to balance being aggressive on this issue with keeping the right momentum so it doesn't lose steam

Other Considerations

- ♦ This will be a shift from a 'structure' driven system to a 'process' driven system
- ♦ Need to agree on and use as a foundation the core spiritual principles for service and their practical application to the effective (and tangible) delivery of service in NA

Issue Discussion Process

What phases, steps, roles/responsibilities, timeframes, resources needed, etc. of the issue discussion process?

[Have notes from the group with ideas on the issue discussion process – but no agreement. Follow-up Action: use the input received and the issue framing above to draft a proposed issue discussion process for EC and WB review.]

Friday 24 April

The chairperson; Jim B opened the meeting with a moment of silence, Serenity prayer, and a sharing session to help everyone catch up with one another.

Review of the Outline and Chapters One and Two

Franney, Bob J, and Andrea led the group in a structured review of the revised material to prepare for fellowship review and input beginning in June. Next meeting is May 14-16, 2009. Material can be found on the FTP site, in the Living Clean folder.

Typo in board report pointed out; *2009* should be *2010*.

Bob reported that about 30% of the fellowship has frequently posted. The survey continues to provide material. As the word about the Living Clean project is spread and members see current chapters less activity occurs; however, Bob believes future chapters will spark new interest. The discussion board seems to help members with questions; Andrea also posts questions from time to time getting members' feedback. Emilio has translated questions and continues to be a part of the process. The fellowship has also been asked to provide input on what the wish they would have heard or read going into this process, as well as asking members with over 30 years experience to provide input. As a way to open doors to additional topics, members are being informed that they can send bit size pieces of input.

Living Clean Outline

Everyone reminded that the workgroup talked about adding a bullet for Veterans to outline; however, after more discussion, the workgroup agreed to change veterans to *coming to grips with the past* as a way to be broader.

Discussion began with input suggesting that chapter 3 and 7 be switched. Because the draft has already been distributed to the fellowship and is currently being translated, everyone agreed to re-evaluate transposing chapters later in the process. Andrea expressed that restructuring the flow of the book is a substantial change at this point and suggested that material stay in the same place for now, instead modify titles. Decision: leave chapters 3 and 7 in original places for now. Workgroup will

discuss repositioning later in the project's process.

Chapter One outline

- The *spiral staircase* metaphor is something usually said negatively about addiction and wonders if this couldn't be changed. Decision: The board agreed to not change *spiral staircase*.

Chapter Two outline

- Confusion expressed in relation to changes to subsections but wonders if this really matters because it's only a subsection.

- Caution articulated regarding phrases like *change is messy*, would prefer *change can be messy*. Decision: workgroup will look into changing certain phrases.

- Suggests that bullet *breaking pattern, practicing principles* be two separate bullets. Decision: to delete *practicing principles* from bullet.

Topic of restructuring chapters brought up once more and the differences between changes to outline and structuring chapters explained.

Chapter Three Outline

- Decision: *risky behavior* will be changed to *thrill seeking* in chapter 3 outline.

- Will physical self (gym junkies) be addressed?

- Add *healthy approaches to doing exercise* as a way to address positive ways this plays into people's life.

- Are things like fear, how anxiety expresses self, and the avoidance of sensations addressed under *physical self*? This is a more complicated issue but nonetheless an issue believed needing to be addressed. Decision to include *sensations avoidance, not being in my body* as input to the workgroup and/or to the outline as well as a possible bullet.

- Has heard women share about binging and purging as being part of their recovery and having to learn and find ways to deal with self image issue.

- A number of board members get a sense that the draft has a preoccupation with sickness and unhealthy part of recovery, to a large degree focusing on negative experiences. But there is also much happiness, joy and freedom in recovery. Would like the book to express the joy of recovery, happiness, etc.

- Sex and sexuality seems more appropriately placed under chapter 4 instead of 3.

Andrea explained that the workgroup talked about this and adamant about keeping separate; but belonging in both places because they are related.

Chapter Four outline

- Add *living together/relationship* and *breaking up/divorce*. Decision: *Living together* and *breaking up/divorce* will be added as sub bullets to outline.

- Does *peers* bullet encompass coworkers?

- Understands bullet addressing relationship with people but what about relationship with environment. For example, nature and this defining who some members are.

Andrea responded that coworkers will be addressed under *relationships with non addicts*. To help writer grasp concept Paul asked to submit input on *relationship with environment* to help writer grasp

concept (action).

- Want the book to deal with codependency, *women and relationships, dealing with codependency.*

Andrea explained that the outline enumerates different types of relationships diagnostically. The board reassured that the issue with women and codependency will come up in this chapter without having to add *codependence.*

- *Family of origin* seems like its counselor talk. There was a brief discussion regarding alternatives and what would be appropriate given that this has to do with relationship / family we grew up in. Decision: Writer will consider alternatives.

- Wondering if book will address incest, etc as sub bullet under *family of origin.* Bob and Andrea believe these types of issues will come up in various places of the book. Decision: add *core issues* bullet under *relationship* section as a way to address codependency, incest and other behaviors.

- Will this book address individuals dating many NA members and how that can sometimes run members out of Narcotics Anonymous. Decision: add *service* under *Relationship with fellowship.*

Chapter Five outline

- Understands that chapter 6 addresses stages of recovery, but there's a distinction between *phases* and *stages* of recovery. Include a bullet that targets how the fellowship has changed, the fellowship's evolution and dis-connect for many with substantial clean time. Further expanding on thought: long time members that feel disconnected because the fellowship is not the same as when they got clean.

Andrea asks if adding *old-timer* bullet would be adequate. Decision: add old-timer as a bullet in chapter 5. Everyone in agreement with allowing workgroup decide which is used. Franney also offered *stuck on stuck, lazy ass recovery* or *staying open* as possible bullets.

- Suggests a bullet about having no faith in early recovery and how we learn about faith. How we start taking big leaps of faith/risks. Also that sometimes taking risk is successful (outcome) and sometimes it is not. Embracing and trusting the Higher Power, belief, and spirituality.

Decision: add *transitioning into new ways of living* to outline under chapter 5. Add something that targets leaps of faith as a bullet in outline and/or allowing workgroup to decide which is used.

Chapter Six outline

- No changes noted

Chapter Seven outline

- Understand that right now may not be time to switch chapters 3 and 7 however suggestion offered again of transposing chapters, as input.

- Add a bullet that targets *accepting our humanity, accepting who we are.*

- *Relationship with environment* can instead be place under chapter 7, *living spiritually* instead of chapter 4. Decision: agreement to move relationship with environment to chapter 7.

Introduction

Decision: agreement: some of what is stated in the 6th edition intro will be included in the *Living Clean* introduction, e.g. global growth of fellowship and how it's impacted the fellowship.

Chapter One Review

Overall impression of Chapter One and input provided:

- Much better, changes made are positive, found draft easier to read and great sound bites. 6th paragraph is amazing and would like more of the spirit of this paragraph throughout the book.

- Chapter seems too long

- A couple of board members thought the draft lacks life of recovery, living clean over the long haul, the freedom after triumphing over obstacles. Seems to be missing more of a kick, hope, the successes we didn't know were possible.

- Page 15 sentence *our destinations are different, but the road we travel is the same.* Paragraph too strong and seems paragraph is an opinion not affirmative like other paragraphs, suggests changing wording so that it clarifies and makes a little softer.

- Bottom page 16 sentence with *getting loaded.* Offers *some of us use* instead. Also shared another part of the next chapter having same feeling and asked that writer look at rewording.

- Page 16 fourth paragraph...*because we find here what we were desperately looking for*...would like something more exciting and uplifting.

- Page 16 *some of us go to professionals to try to treat what else is going on*...Sentence makes it seem like psychiatry is a negative thing to do.

- Page 18 second paragraph *in the moments when we feel the deepest gratitude, we can look back and see that our path to that moment was neither short nor straight,...* is where the transition starts. The spirit of this positive statement throughout the book is desired, the awe of this power and principle. The gratitude for the many freedoms we have found in recovery. Added was knowing the effort is worth it even though it doesn't feel like it - the benefits of staying clean. Balance the richness as well as the struggle. Being in recovery allows us to move into certain areas and directions more easily than before.

- Page 18 first paragraph understand idea but the way paragraph is written is confusing.

The board asked if this draft needed editing prior to going out in June 2009. Which then raised the issue as to why time is being spent to review material/give input if edits will not be incorporated prior to drafts going out to fellowship? It was explained that there is no publish date because it's anticipated that changes will need to be made.

Decision Chapter One: the board reaffirmed January's decision which gives the writer a vote of confidence to make judgment calls on incorporating input. For example, if it's an issue raised by one or two people, it does not have to be factored in. If an issue is brought up many times, the writer is to evaluate issue and make changes. Agreement to have Executive Committee review drafts before sending them out for fellowship review and input.

Chapters One & Two review questions

The board exchanged thoughts regarding whether *overall impression of chapter* as a question is sufficient. Decision: agreement to not change question #1 wording, however add a scale.

Decision: ask members to describe what's missing in question #2 (want specific input).

Questions #4 and #5 are somewhat discourteous and workgroup asked to think about what they think they will get from current questions. Is the workgroup looking for yes or no responses? If so what type of value is gathered from yes or no responses?

Decision: Chapter questions will be reworded to be more open-ended / provide better information and question 5 will be removed. Workgroup will review questions.

Chapters Two Review

Chapter was so much easier to read and paragraphs connected better. There were a couple of quotes that seemed to be speaking about us.

Really like chapter but thought it was long and hard to read due to length.

Page 21

- Line10 would like sentence regarding *taking risks* to be more uplifting and encouraging

- Line 17 suggests changing *can be*

Page 22

- Line 68 seems a little too idealistic / airy fairy and asks that input be taken under consideration, would be okay if not changed

    o Line 68 great paragraph

Page 24

- Line 117 colloquiums like *fake it till ya make it*, not preferred

- Line 146 *sometimes all we need, really, is to shift our perspective*, would like word *attitude* included

Page 25

Lines 151-153 would like something about humility mentioned

Page 26

- Line 202 not certain we should use the word *joking*. Andrea stated that the board agreed about wanting the book to have humor

- Line 203 *just back away* again colloquiums or slang not preferred but okay with no change as well.

Page 27

- Likes spirit of chapter two but thinks there are too many quotes. On the other hand thought chapter is good. Line 250 *humility is about "right sizing" ourselves in relation to our world*...likes that this is about fixing ourselves.

- Lines 254-255 personally would not agree with self-obsession being rooted in fear and paragraph becomes confusing because next sentence-line 255 states...*strangest fear many of us have is that we will lose ourselves entirely.* The two do not agree.

- Lines 263-264 is this a definition for addiction? *Often a feeling will send us into self-obsession: addiction is, after all a disease of ideas and attitudes.*

Franney responded that addiction is defined in our literature in many different ways and if that sentence creates energy then we can restate.

- Sentiment expressed regarding identity and the importance for us to say, there is value in discovering something in our identity we already have inside.

- Workgroup should consider translations when writing draft, at the same time the book needs to be targeted for the US population.

Experience of long time members sincerely needed, for example things that happen in late recovery / discoveries, anything. Everyone reminded of the importance of providing input. The material is sent out with enough time to allow input/editing to occur prior to meeting which would only help to create a better R&I draft.

Decision: Chapter Two board agreement: to allow writer to make decisions regarding changes. Drafts will be sent to EC then WB prior to going out to fellowship.

Review and Discussion of the process to finalize WB candidate list

Jim B recapped points from the Executive Committee discussion concerning process and list of candidates for WB to review. Also pointed out was how the EC agreed that items listed under competence were skills that one must possess to be a productive board member and diversity is desired but not exclusive. The idea is that there are a core set of skills that everyone must have and there is another set the board needs to possess, after which a yearly assessment on where the board is lacking would be examined. When the EC talked about other diversity issues, for example, it encompassed a very broad span (all over the world); we lack many demographics, for example, there are more Gay/Lesbians members in NA than Asian.

The list of names is an attempt to help the board consider individuals that may fill gaps. Until there was assurance that evaluations would stay private, no one felt comfortable being frank, consequently only a general 'yes or no' response to recommending someone in the future would be obtained. The World Board decided to no longer complete evaluation forms because they weren't helpful. The board also talked about opportunity to discuss and identify deficiencies on the World Board as a way to select those for future consideration.

Decision: Two categories developed and agreed upon; competence and diversity.

Competence – must have to be on board:

- Ability to read, write, speak English fluently
- Computer literate
- Work well with others

Diversity – NA is diverse and the World Board should reflect this.

Some of the demographic groups considered for diversity include:

- Latin
- Asian
- People of color in general
- Muslim culture
- Women / Women of color women
- Gay/Lesbian
- Age-under 40

A description of the HRP blind process was provided. There was brief discussion regarding current board process, differences between someone that speaks fluent Spanish and someone born in Latin America (culture) followed by identifying skills/talents. Everyone agreed that skills/competence missing from the board is:

- Enterprise level business organization/business experience (strategic planning experience)

Process Discussion Points:

- The board ought to develop a type of environmental scan to help with identifying board needs now and for the future, establishing a process where requirements are defined each cycle as well as opportunities to have exposure with members must be created.

- A value judgment about a person's continued participation on workgroup and how vital participation is to workgroup would have to be made for individuals that are currently on a workgroup and submitted as a possible candidate for WB.

The board exchanged thoughts regarding current process discussion. Board agreed to end discussion since this will not be the final time for the board.

Decision: Agreement that currently missing skill/talent from the board is enterprise level business organization / business experience and strategic planning.

The current excel sheet with potential candidates will be modified to accommodate the addition of more information for board.

Saturday 25 April

Craig, Mukam and Mark are in the Service System workgroup meeting.

Review of financial position of NAWS

2008-2010 NAWS Budget Current financial position

NAWS consolidated financials for month ending 31 March 2009 presented.

For the first time in our history, NAWS grossed $1M.

In January, we pointed out that although we were losing and expensing more money than taking in, we also thought income would start to overshadow loses. Staff continues to cut cost and maintaining controls wherever possible. Relative financial health as a company is good; we currently have 45 operating days of reserves (lost 70 days). The current goal adopted by the board is about $3.8m.

Discussion points:

- Anthony and Bob M (Business Plan workgroup) revising the current Emergency Action Plan to incorporate additional steps that were not contained in the plan previously.

- Operating at about $137K more and 1 month ahead of where we thought we would be in process.

- Inventory expenses lowered by $100K - this trend will be tracked.

- Fellowship donations are significantly down compared to last year. Anticipate that NAWS will receive donations from 4 large events before June 30; overall, we are about 4K under for donations. If Northern California is able to close their books by June 30, 2009, then, we can reasonably assume our donation amount will increase.

- Average inventory item turn over is about 41 days. The challenge with our inventory is NAWS has "must have" items coupled with the continual addition of non-English items which don't move as fast and increases inventory numbers.

- Average mark up for NAWS products is 30% costs of goods; Basic Text represents about 70% of our revenue.

WCNA 33

Expense summary: projected bottom line has been dramatically reduced. European venues do not provide or offer free space like many of the US venues. Therefore, paid events removed as one of the variables to reduce expenses. And since there will be no paid events, no structured transportation procured. We have also acquired space outside the convention center that allows for 3 days of use which will permit us to use for events like the coffee houses and festival.

Program expenses not reduced and as originally projected; plan on funding 13 speakers for a comparable number of 50 meetings. A couple of staff members will be traveling to Barcelona soon to continue working out final merchandise details, we will continue with the contracted PR firm and decorating for event. Entertainment focus will be on the festival; we are also trying to figure out how to include additional items for pre-registrants. There will be a WSO onsite joined with Spain's 25 anniversary celebration.

World Board travel is not included in this budget but will be included in World Board operational travel.

- Additional discussion - European members' attendance and the vast economical changes within

each country that may not allow for attendance at the world convention.

- Suggestion; e-blast members about airfares to Barcelona currently pretty low.

  • A recently purchased airline ticket via the American airlines/brazil [www.aa.com.br] was noted to be about half the price of purchasing ticket through regular American airlines site [www.aa.com].

- Room blocks – NAWS typically motivated to get people in to meet our room blocks; however, there is no benefit to NAWS. We are encouraging everyone to get creative with their own arrangements.

- Hilton Barcelona litigation is based on the harm cause with the lack of rooms not sold. This will come down to the Hilton's ability to prove harm caused. This is to our advantage because we have not paid the deposit; contract technically not in effect.

Production Items

Basic Text 6th edition-gift

Sample presented; current cost of goods is $6.52 with gift box it's roughly $19.56. Tentative decision: and pending further discussion with the Business Plan workgroup; to price book $20.00.

Mug as a companion piece to Basic Text Gift edition

Decision: board agreement to add mug as companion to Basic Text and as an inventory item, and not excluding item from being sold at the convention (depending on costs etc.).

Idea is to use the concept of a cup changing designs when it is hot and cold. When cold it would be black with wording "lose the desire to use". When hot, the book symbol with same wording will appear. Current cost of good for cup is high, considering the possibility of same idea on differently shaped mug. Also like the idea of just creating a mug with image (that doesn't change). Specifics will be emailed to board. Decision: board in agreement with pursuing companion mug idea. Final details will be emailed to the board.

Gift edition Journal

Decision: agreement to proceed with two types of journals; one that does not contain the NA logo only; second is the simplified cover with the NA on it.

Medallion Holder

Decisions: board agreement with staff pursuing medallion holder as an inventory item.

Translation and Production issues

Polish Basic Text 5th edition

The Polish speaking community has completed their translations of the Basic Text 5th edition book. Because it would take the community many years to translate the 6th edition, they are requesting permission to move forward with production of Book One, of the Basic Text 5th edition.

Decision: World Board agrees with Polish speaking community proceeding forward with production of Book One, of the Basic Text 5th edition.

Australia Little White Booklet original personal stories

Community sent a request for permission to publish the Little White Booklet with their own personal stories.

World Board discussed setting a precedent with personal stories and LWB; and, if there is value for other American communities to create booklets with personalized stories. However, all agreed that the US had the ability to impact the book when it was developed and non US communities did not.

Decision: <u>the board authorized Australia to produce a book with their own personal stories; however, Australia will be asked to communicate with New Zealand (NZ) allowing NZ to include stories, if wanted. Personal stories will follow the standard process for a translated piece.</u>

Miracle Happen Farsi Footnotes

Becky explained footnotes are to help explain things like Bob Dylan and civil war in *Miracle Happens*. Decision: <u>The board in agreement with allowing the inclusion of footnotes, the EC reviewing and having authority for the final sign off.</u> The board also understands that that any Islamic translation will not be a direct or as clean translation as the English.

Approve January 2009 Minutes

Decision: <u>January 2009 World Board Meeting minutes accepted as presented.</u>

Action Item List

Submitted project ideas

1	Emilio R	Donation box; place a box at the entrance of the WSO	April 7, 2009	Decided not to pursue - being sensitive and understanding that many do not have credit cards in order to donate via the web
2	Emilio R	Twelve Concepts poster; include Concept poster in the current poster set.	April 7, 2009	The idea is liked and staff will find out if the Twelve Concept poster is already included in the current set. If not, we will make a part of the poster set.

PSA

There was a general discussion regarding a member from South Africa researching the cost to develop a PSA in South Africa because it's less expensive. Any regions can develop PSAs; if sent to NAWS, PSAs will be posted to the FTP site.

Purple key tag

There has been some talk in fellowship that a motion regarding the purple key tag will be submitted at the conference. NAWS also researched production cost and found tag not expensive to produce. Over the years NAWS has received various key tag ideas proposals that will need to be discussed by the board at some point (Tabled).

Line Numbered Basic Text

There was an inquiry regarding the production of the line number Basic Text 6th edition - it will be produced at some point; however, timeframe unknown. Becky added that many line numbered pocket size Basic Text sold.

Swedish JFT is about from 8-10 weeks away from production.

Business Plan Group will be discussing e-versions of NA literature.

WSO Europe Pricing Changes

Price change went into effect 1 April; actual change occurring 1 July 2009. Staff is working with Ireland and UK who thus far are the only communities expressing dissatisfaction with changes.

Reaching Out and NA Way Workgroup Meetings

Reaching Out meeting report provided in book 1, the *NA Way* report will be provided at the June 2009 meeting.

An email from a member was read which expressed concerns regarding *Meeting by Mail* being discontinued. The board was reminded about their rationale and subsequent decision behind discontinuation; publication is no longer accomplishing its original intent and purpose is no longer valid. Also, the board informed that this member that can express his thoughts and communicate via other communication methods as well as physically get out to meetings.

Decision: staff will draft a response to member addressing concerns.

ITOI and Self-Support

Reminder that ITOI and Self-Support report provided in Book 1; discussion will occur in June.

WB Contact with RD's

- Franney has only had responses back from a single delegate on her list and believes that's because they know each other.

- Arne's experience is that his contacts love the communication and include him in mailing of their regional minutes.

- Tonia and Piet have not received responses from anyone on their list of delegates.

- Junior shared realizing that along with enhancing relationship with delegates that this could also potentially jeopardize relationship with delegates. Many want his personal opinions on local community issues and find this challenging. Junior also pointed that he's never certain with whom he is speaking because of constant delegate changes and NAWS not being updated.

- Paul did two ("mail-outs") and only received responses from two delegates.

- Mary has had good experiences with delegates although she has not heard from Japanese and Finland delegates.

- Ron B experienced initial enthusiasm, which died off and received a contact via staff. Wonders if this contact / communication with WB and RD can be reported in *NAWS News* to make sure information going out.

- Jim has been contacting delegates between each board meeting as a way to keep them updated; this allows delegates to ask questions or provide input.

- Ron H initial contact with Alsask delegate was unfriendly but after a lengthy conversation, delegate became more open. Ron and delegate talked about their potential motion regarding changing literature wording. Ron explained the likelihood of a motion to change literature passing not being high. Alsask also very interested Resolution A. However other than Alsask initial challenge had many pleasantries. Never received a response from Chicagoland. Ron H believes more contact will start to occur as the WSC gets closer.

- Jim reported that he believes that Ron M has had positive results with delegates.

Action item list: The board agreed to look at changing or rotating contacts every cycle.

Remove IDT discussion boards from na.org?

There was some discussion about its usefulness and participation. Other than the general IDT board,

service specific areas are more focused but not heavily used. Usually questions posted are basic and those that use it find it useful. There are only about 15-20 regular people that post.

Decision: board agreement with the discontinuation of the IDT discussion board. A brief message will be posted about it being taken down and date (June 1).

Action item list: add bulletin board moderator to the June 2009 World Board agenda. Franney will continue moderating board until June 2009 meeting.

Service System and WSC Seating

The World Board and Service System workgroup met to begin framing the WSC Seating discussion as well as talk about any additional thoughts that may have resulted from Thursday's session. Session goal is to evaluate the relevancy of both NAWS Vision and Mission statements.

The vision targets NAWS and the Mission targets the World Service Conference (WSC). There were 67 seated regions at the time NAWS started funding participants and funding did have an exponential impact on the overall cost of the conference.

Everyone agreed to brainstorm specific purposes due to limited time. It's important that everyone think about whom will be participating at the conference in the future so that it suits a different collective.

As a way to open and begin discussions the following questions were presented:

1. Should there be a complete statement overhaul?
   a. Work within existing parameters of statement?
   b. Only make modifications to make system work?
2. What's the World Service Conference purpose and what should it accomplish?
3. What is missing or needed in the WSC Mission Statement?

- You can't think about who is participating until we know what the Service System is designed to do. Two of the Mission statement bullets concern groups and it may be that the future of the WSC is not to focus on the group.
- There is nothing noted about the growth of NA as a responsibility.
- Add to *further NA Vision*.
- First bullet has to do with motions, thinks decision making needs to come before motion and decision focused bullet needs to move down.

Missing or Needed on WSC Mission Statement (what is the purpose)

- A collection of regions to focus on forward thinking and strategic planning not just problem solving.
- There is a lot of vision in this, but form has not followed yet. Need an environment of training and mentoring.
- There is a piece that states that the conference is a place to solve problems... our conference is more than that. It's a place to start planning, facilitate the planning, forward thinking, which includes strategic plan.
- An environment of training and mentoring.

The "Ideal World Service Conference" brainstorm

Take away limitation of what the WSC is, etc. what would it look like as the most effective body, a body that serves everyone.

- Seating process is reactive and not plan driven.

- The conference is a manageable number of participants (can't be open-ended)

- Shift representation based on an agreed upon criteria that maintains that workable size.

- Need a healthy disconnect between seating and service delivery. This should not be encouraged or discouraged on seating at the conference.

- All cultures represented none over represented. Plan driven seating process where seating is based on needs. A conference that reflects our diversity rather than representative.

  - In order for us to fulfill our vision, the conference needs to be geographically balanced, e.g. development stages, culture differences... entity or event itself has needs.

- A place where conference expresses needs and NAWS needs to receive as well (2 way street). Don't need many to give direction in order to have equal representation. At the same time, it's a place for training and receiving and the place and time when more in attendance is needed – possibly decentralized in another forum; not about voting etc. but about learning and training everyone could attend. Don't need more in decision making and business making process.

- Only delegates participate at the conference (no alternate delegates).

  - Alternates exposed, trained and developed

- Feed mechanism in conference itself to address issue of pending splits/seating disputes/issues.

- All cultures represented, none over represented.

- Conference reflects diversity of fellowship (avoid representation).

- Maybe should be an entity not just an event.

- Two way give and receive. Don't need as many as now to accomplish this.

- If smaller then smaller entities that feed into it.

- Focused on Vision rather than business, politics, policies.

- Change perceived benefits that drive wanting to be a part of the conference and need for a community voice being heard. Ensure those needs are met whether inside or outside the conference itself. There are both positive and negative aspects to the unity and being a part of something that is greater.

- Conference by many seems to be the culminating point at which the service structure at its highest level is accountable. Whatever is created needs to encompass this? Ensure that NAWS is accountable to and perceived to be accountable.

- A system that encourages shared voice/representation when that works for the local.

- Ensure that conferences needs are served not just local needs.

- Need a transformed CAR and conference preparation process to fit new vision (UN model)

- Need to meet fellowship needs - inspire, enrich fellowship, as well as the needs of NAWS.
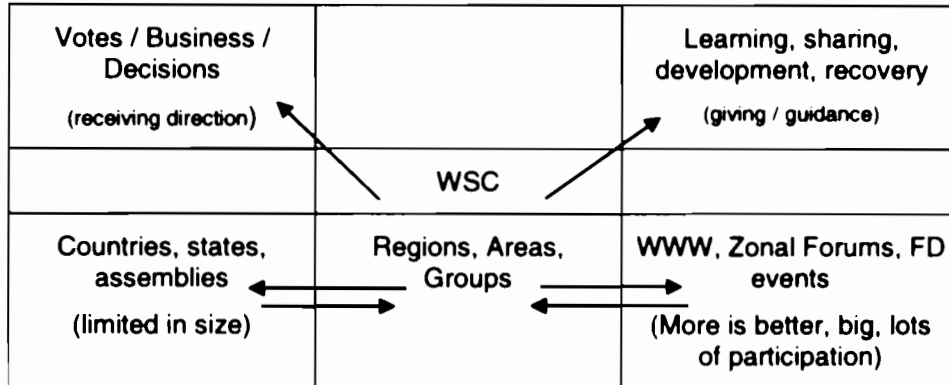
Drawing capturing input

Votes / Business / Decisions (receiving direction)		Learning, sharing, development, recovery (giving / guidance)
	WSC	
Countries, states, assemblies (limited in size)	Regions, Areas, Groups	WWW, Zonal Forums, FD events (More is better, big, lots of participation)

- The rub will be the ability to continue creating philosophical connections (from members around the world), unity, and what they can take home. The other issue is needs of the conference, what are the unique needs of the conference message and the needs of the conference?

  Needs of the conference is part of the diversity alluded to, how does this picture impact who acts when the conference is not in session, who the conference serves is very important perspective and a bigger issue of NA as a whole. We have to understand the pieces as well as the whole.

  The fellowship has the old TWGWS kind of WSC view or no understanding of it at all. Senses that part of the reason APF members are okay with sending someone else to conference is because they already feel the connectiveness at their forum. Believes our challenge will be to help local communities create and nurture their own magic because many find that magic at the conference and not at their local level.

- Needs of fellowship: NA philosophy, unity. Who we are and aren't. Sense of the reality of the vision.

- Needs of NAWS: Understand the local community needs. Guided by the holistic experience of the conference.

- Static representational boundaries (geographic). Foresees zones starting to split.

- The excitement and electricity to regions and groups and other addicts is a vital part/value. Gets re-energized that is carried home when he comes here, to worldwide workshops, conference.

- Create standards that allow connectivity to be uniform. Connectiveness should be the primary focus but the installation of standards will be our biggest challenge. For example, there is a conscience of the group at zonal forums, participants don't deliberate or make decisions. Participants' focus is to be together and share information. However in contrast the APF is solely a decision making forum.

- There is a different sense among delegates who attend the conference versus those that don't. Many communities feel attending the conference is a "come of age," "ownership" promoting an element of "who's really in charge". AA has an event solely based on sharing and NA can do the same. We need to bring that value in some other way for "stakeholders."

- Create opportunities to share solutions and success. Successes are in regional reports but information does not really stand out in any way. Develop session that allows delegates to talk about bigger issues noted in reports.

- Multi-lingual conference would work.

- Seating regions creates buzz/energy at conference; offers removing seating at WSC - disconnecting the gratification from representation.

- Need a system that copes with non-standard types of systems (solely referring to zones). Deal with what is rather than what should be—would like fellowship to provide more examples of how they carry group conscience because many are already doing it and its working.

- Smaller zonal level conferences more frequently with one conference with all participants every 5 years. Decentralize - multiple centers. And possibly bring the bigger picture closer to people more frequently because many don't know or understand what that is.

- Shared how invaluable (magic) experience of a woman facilitating a session in the Middle East in a country where women are basically second class citizens. Don't want to lose those types of opportunities.

- Taking business out of the WSC altogether would be ideal. WSC motions could be done through another system (IT) that allows for a regional conscience. This may reduce the need to downsize.

- Agrees with trying to come up with static boundaries at the same time believes part of the magic is its diversity and its size so doesn't want to lose that by making the conference smaller/decentralizing. WSC is more about the magic than business. "Not sure cows can be brought back in the barn after we've rung the bell."

- Disagrees with magic being the point of WSC, believes conference needs to capture and address global issues.

- Hope new system may be opportunity for unification since local spits have caused some to lose the magic.

- Create an atmosphere of unification or reunification, sometimes more is better but other times less is better. For example, more unification creates a better pool of talent, leadership. But at the same time, if there are fewer delegates at conference, possibly there is more unification at the local level.

- Educate about the myth of having to be involved in every decision that is made because more does not create more reliable decisions.

Ron H and Travis shared that common themes throughout week seem to be: decentralization or some type of decentralization but at the same time there is a marriage that is centralized in places that brings magic, with decentralization in certain places which is different. Everyone seems to rally around what's relevant to them that creates atmosphere of being a part of. Identify what those are and focus on common relevance.

Jim thanked everyone for their participation this weekend and meeting ended in usual manner.