

**Families Anonymous
Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Directors
August 20, 2022**

INTRODUCTION

- 1. Call to Order:** 12:01 pm EDT, by Maria S, Chair
(Introductions of Board members for the benefit of new member, Sarah T.)
- 2. Roll Call:** by Jan B, Recording Secretary

<u>Name</u>	<u>WSB Role</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Monthly Report</u>
Maria S	Chair	P	W
Marcia C	Vice Chair	P	W
Cindy C	Treasurer	P	W
Jan B	Secretary	P	W
Barbara S	BMAL	P	W
Ann P	BMAL	P	W
Bob S	BMAL	E	W
Chris Y	BMAL	P	L
Chris Z	BMAL	P	W
Clive W	BMAL	P	W
Helen L	BMAL	E	E
Jeff S	BMAL	P	L
Mike B	BMAL	P	L
Sarah T	BMAL	P	N

Attendance Key: P=Present, A=Absent, E=Excused, LOA=Leave of Absence

Monthly Report Key: W= Submitted by deadline, L=Submitted after deadline,
N=No report submitted, E=Excused for extenuating circumstances, LOA
= Leave of Absence

3. Acceptance of Published Agenda:

- Barbara moved to accept the Agenda, Ann seconded, voted on and accepted.

4. Tradition One:

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

5. Approval of July 2022 WSB Minutes:

- Jan moved to accept the July WSB Minutes, Ann seconded, voted on and approved. Jan to distribute.

6. Chair's Report:

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

7. Treasurer's Report:

- Cindy provided the July monthly financial reports, as part of her monthly report. Cindy added the importance of continuing to grow the Fellowship. It was decided that an email blast needs to go out again reminding groups of the literature that is available. Clive suggested reading a passage from TABW at every meeting which in the UK groups they have found encourages people to buy copies. Cindy sends out emails to folks she meets outside of FA with copies of free literature and a link to the FA website literature store for more if they are interested. Mike suggested making all FA social media linked so as to “feed people whatever coffee they drink”. Maria will make sure to include these suggestions in the EC session on how to grow FA groups.
- There were no other comments or questions concerning the Treasurer’s Report.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

<u>Committee</u>	<u>Chair</u>
SC-1 Public Information	Jeff S
SC-2 WSO	Maria S
SC-3 Literature	Ann P
SC-4 Serenity Messenger Newsletter	Robert S
SC-5 Bylaws, Parliamentary	Barbara S
SC-6 International Groups	Helen L
SC-7 Budget Committee	Cindy C
SC-8 Sponsorship	Helen L
SC-9 Group Outreach	Marcia C
SC-10 Financial Oversight	Chris Z
SC-11 Technology	Chris

AD-HOC COMMITTEE REPORTS

<u>Committee</u>	<u>Chair</u>
AH-1 Convention Liaison	Barbara S

AH-2 Intergroup Support & Development	TBD
AH-3 Document Review	Ann P
AH-4 Long Range Planning	Mike B
AH-5 Revenue Growth Task Force	Cindy C
AH-6 Education	Marcia C

- Other than the information provided in the monthly Board Reports, there were no additional updates from the Committee Chairs.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

TABLED ITEMS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

1. MOTION LC-1 (August 2022)

Motion: The Literature Committee moves that the WSB approve the attached revision of #1013 *Our Son Is in Recovery and Coming Home: One Family's Story* (formerly *A Recovering Addict Comes Home: One Family's Story*).

Rationale:

The Literature Committee determined that revision of this piece was required because:

- This new edition will bring this piece into conformity with modern terminology used in the recovery, medical and psychological communities, including the avoidance of any term (such as *addict*) that labels a person as being the totality of his or her substance use disorder.
- This piece has been very popular over the years, thereby becoming part of the representative face of Family Anonymous, and as such should be kept up-to-date to encourage continued demand, including by professional communities.
- Sales are indicative of its popularity and make it a consistent income producer. (In just the past 10 years, we have sold 8,600+ copies, including 4,800 copies to treatment facilities in four bulk orders [three orders of 1,000 each + one order of 800].)

Feasibility:

- The WSB has already had an opportunity to review and make comments on the revised piece.
- Any comments offered by board members were considered prior to creating the attached revision.

- The final PDF is attached to this motion.

Implementation:

Upon approval of this motion, the Literature Committee will:

- proof and polish this piece, as appropriate, so it is ready for printing when warranted by inventory level
- update the literature catalog at the time of printing

- **Motion made by Ann, seconded by Barbara, voted on and approved.**

1. MOTION LC-2 (August 2022)

Motion: The Literature Committee moves that the WSB approve the attached revision of #1005 *Alternative to Enabling*.

Rationale:

- The Literature Committee determined that revision of this piece was required.
- Inventory of this piece was low, and this revision was undertaken in a timely manner.

Feasibility:

- The WSB has already had an opportunity to review and make comments on the revised piece.
- Any comments offered by board members were considered prior to creating the attached revision.
- The final PDF is attached to this motion.

Implementation:

Upon approval of this motion, the Literature Committee will proof and polish this piece, as appropriate, so it is ready for printing when warranted by inventory level

- **Motion made by Ann, seconded by Barbara, voted on and approved.**

3. MOTION LC-3 (August 2022)

Motion: The Literature Committee moves that the WSB approve the attached revision of #2003-1 *Negatives to Positives: #1 in the Helping Series*.

Rationale:

- The Literature Committee determined that revision of this piece was required.

- Inventory of this piece is getting low, and this revision was undertaken in a timely manner.

Feasibility:

- The WSB has already had an opportunity to review and make comments on the revised piece.
- Any comments offered by board members were considered prior to creating the attached revision.
- The final PDF is attached to this motion.

Implementation:

Upon approval of this motion, the Literature Committee will proof and polish this piece, as appropriate, so it is ready for printing when warranted by inventory level.

- **Motion made by Ann, seconded by Barbara, voted on and approved.**

4. MOTION LC-4 (August 2022)

Motion: The Literature Committee moves that the WSB approve the attached revision of #2010 *About Substance Use Disorder* (formerly *About Drug Abuse*).

Rationale:

The Literature Committee determined that revision of this piece was required because:

- This new edition will bring this piece into conformity with modern terminology used in the recovery, medical and psychological communities, specifically the use of *substance use disorder* in place of *drug abuse*
- This piece is one of FA's five basic readings and is familiar to virtually everyone in the fellowship. The LC's intention in editing this reading was to make only the changes that are necessary, while keeping as close as possible to the historical wording.

Feasibility:

- The WSB has already had an opportunity to review and make comments on the revised piece.
- Any comments offered by board members were considered prior to creating the attached revision.
- The final PDF is attached to this motion.

Implementation:

Upon approval of this motion, the Literature Committee will:

- proof and polish this piece, as appropriate, so it is ready for printing when warranted by inventory level
 - update, and ready for printing, other literature pieces that:
 - (a) include this reading (e.g., #1001 *Basic Pamphlet* and #5003 & #5003V *Suggested Meeting Format with Basic Readings* for in-person and virtual meetings)
 - (b) make mention of this reading (e.g., #5001 *The FA Tools of Recovery* and #5010 *The Twelve Traditions in Action*)
 - update the literature catalog when necessary
- **Motion made by Ann, voted on and approved.**

The consensus of the Board for all four LC motions is to ready the revised updates for approval of the Board so that they can, once approved, be translated into other languages and be updated on the downloadable versions, but not to print new versions until it is time to order more, as decided upon by Cindy and Ann. This way it is fiscally responsible and not wasteful. FA membership will understand if there is a transition period of a couple years until all materials are updated. Cindy asked that since shipping costs are so high, the LC make strategic decisions to group the orders in order to save money.

2. Video Vignettes: Jeff S and Sarah T:

Since people read and research differently now, it is important to be on lots of social media sites which should all point to each other and to and from the FA website. This is the best way to find new members. The idea is to create 6 – 12 2 minute videos or mini-vignettes on various topics, with people in various stages of recovery. Individuals or small groups would be recorded discussing topics such as enabling, or how FA has helped them. Maria suggested that they create one such as a pilot to bring before the Board. Ann requested that the Board review all vignettes just as is done with the literature and that volunteers would need to sign a release that the video will be FA property. Maria said Bob will look into the legal matter. Sarah T is looking into creating a documentary on FA that would be a separate project and would be her content. Clive stated that the UK Board is also considering a similar project and asked that the 2 Boards work together and share content. Jeff asked for volunteers to contact him.

- **Motion to move forward with the pilot made by Jeff, seconded by Sarah T, voted on and passed.**

3. Question from the UK regarding the wording of Step One.

Clive stated that NA has changed the wording of Step One from “... powerless over drugs...” to “... powerless over our addiction...”. Clive asked that a discussion of a

change like this for FA could be discussed at next month's meeting. Maria will put it on the agenda.

CLOSING

1. Announcements and Other Items:

- Ann asked how we can use the FA and other social media logos on our website with out affiliating ourselves with them. Mike answered that linking to more than one social media site would make it clear that we are not affiliated, just linked, and that we can look at it as a tool we use to get our name out, just like a printer we use to print the literature.
- Barbara reminded everyone that the Convention is next week and asked that all Board members attend as good modeling. Cindy said that all present Board members are registered, in addition to about 150 registrants and that donations have been high, so the decision to make the convention free worked in terms of fundraising. She is excited and sees the Convention as a great way to showcase FA.

2. Adjournment

- Motion to adjourn was made by Barbara, seconded by Marcia, voted on and passed (1:50 pm EDT).

3. Closed with the Serenity Prayer