

**Families Anonymous
Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Directors
September 17, 2022**

INTRODUCTION

1. Call to Order: 12:02 pm EDT, by Maria S, Chair

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	E	W
Cindy C	Treasurer	P	W
Jan B	Secretary	P	W
Barbara S	BMAL	P	L
Ann P	BMAL	P	W
Bob S	BMAL	P	W
Chris Y	BMAL	E	W
Chris Z	BMAL	P	N
Clive W	BMAL	E	W
Helen L	BMAL	E	E
Jeff S	BMAL	E	W
Mike B	BMAL	A	N
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:

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

4. Tradition One:

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

5. Approval of August 2022 WSB Minutes:

- Jan moved to accept the August WSB Minutes, Bob 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 August monthly financial reports, as part of her monthly report.
- Barbara asked what the final profit from the Convention was. Answer: \$5,900, very successful.
- Bob asked how this profit compared to other years. Answer: Somewhere around the median amount.
- 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 Y
SC-12 Long Range Planning	Mike B

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 Revenue Growth Task Force	Cindy C
AH-5 Education	Marcia C

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Vignettes (Jeff's report & Sarah): A faux meeting on the topic of codependency was filmed with 6 FA members as a pilot project. Sarah felt that this hour of film might have some good vignettes within it. Next steps are to secure permission from folks to divulge their identities by revealing their faces on the clips, and decide on themes through which they can tell their stories. Sarah does not want these to be just testimonials to FA. Maria asked that Jeff and Sarah bring vignettes to FA for feedback and that board members think of group members who speak succinctly and articulately and ask them if they would be willing to participate in this project. Bob asked if there will be some opening and closing to the vignettes, which would clarify that the person is speaking for themselves and not for FA. Answer: great idea! Ann asked if participants' faces would be blacked out to keep anonymity. Answer: No, people would agree to have their faces shown, but would not include last names according to our Traditions. Cindy stated that the Long Range Planning Co. recommended connecting digital literature with the vignettes, with social media, etc., to allow multiple ways to access the information.

TABLED ITEMS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

1. MOTION LC-1 (September 2022)

Motion: The Literature Committee moves that the WSB approve revisions of #1033 *The Three Cs x 2* and #1033X *The Three Cs x 2: An Overview*.

Rationale:

The Literature Committee determined that revision of these pieces was required in order for the text to be consistent with current terminology used in the medical and psychologi-

cal communities, pursuant to the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, Fifth Edition* (DSM-5).

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 was provided to the board prior to the meeting.

Implementation:

Upon approval of this motion, the Literature Committee will do the following:

- For #1033:
 - Proof and polish, as appropriate, so it is ready for printing when warranted by inventory level
 - For #1033X:
 - Send a PDF of this revision to the website manager for uploading to the Free Downloads page of the website to replace the file that is currently there.
 - Translate the revised #1033X into Spanish, and send the new translation to the website manager for uploading to the Free Downloads page of the website to replace the file that is currently there.
-
- **Motion made by Ann, seconded by Barbara, voted on and approved.**

2. MOTION LC-2 (September 2022)

Motion:

The Literature Committee moves that the WSB approve the revision of #5002 *Group Inventory*.

Rationale:

The Literature Committee determined that revision of this piece was required in order to:

- make it appropriate for use by groups holding virtual or hybrid meetings as well as groups holding traditional in-person meetings, and
- bring the text into compliance with current terminology used in the medical and psychological communities, pursuant to the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, Fifth Edition (DSM-5)*.

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 revision.
- The final PDF was provided to board members prior to the meeting.

Implementation:

Upon approval of this motion, the Literature Committee will send a PDF of this revision to the website manager for uploading to the Free Downloads page of the website to replace the file that is currently there.

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

3. MOTION LC-3 (September 2022)

Motion:

The Literature Committee moves that the WSB approve the revision of #5012 *My Part in the Group*.

Rationale:

The Literature Committee determined that revision of this piece was required in order to make it appropriate for use by groups holding virtual or hybrid meetings as well as groups holding traditional in-person meetings.

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 revision.
- The final PDF was provided to the board prior to the meeting.

Implementation:

Upon approval of this motion, the Literature Committee will send a PDF of this revision to the website manager for uploading to the Free Downloads page of the website to replace the file that is currently there.

Once the WSO inventory is depleted (which should occur in less than two months), this piece will not be reprinted but will continue being offered as a free download.

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

4. **Literature Subscriptions – How to move forward/implement?**

Cindy has looked into how to sell literature online, how to make our literature more current and accessible in social media without losing revenue. There is a lot to research as it is a significant shift in our business model. We have great literature, but need to figure out how to maximize access to it. There are many questions to sort through. Board came up with 2 action items:

1. Form ad-hoc committee, Literature Access Initiative, which will have representation from Finance (Cindy), Tech, and Literature Committees, chaired by Maria.

2. Cindy will draft an e-blast to membership asking for assistance from those familiar with Flipbook and/or Issuu.

5. Follow-up from the 2022 Virtual Convention (Cindy)

Takeaways from the 2022 Convention:

- 57% of attendees were first timers, possibly because no conventions were held during the 3 Covid years.
- Everyone was 50+ years old, room for growth in that younger age range.
- Most people come to FA for a child but there is room to grow by reaching out to spouses, friends, other relatives.
- 22% heard about FA through a treatment center. This could be even higher if we raise awareness with counselors and centers.
- E-mail blasts to the “Big List” and communications to group secretaries are working.
- Post Covid donations have become a larger piece of our revenue pool. Voluntary donations worked!
- 241 registrations were booked. While we do not have exact counts of people attending, it was noted there were over 100 unique sign-ons at one time with a good number of those including multiple people per screen (couples and groups). We are pleased with the turnout for our first virtual convention.
- Why did 40% of attendees not know about the Education sessions? Also, only 33% of the respondents actually attended an EC session. Ann suggested maybe because the website EC calendar is confusing. Maria will bring this feedback to the EC.
- How do we capitalize on expressed interest in working the 12 Steps? Encourage Sponsorship? Make the workbook available through social media? Meet people where they are!

6. Future Conventions: Virtual vs. Face to Face (Barbara)

The Virtual convention had much higher attendance than any previous convention, was free admission, yet raised as much or more than some face to face conventions. However, as good as it was, there is no way to get the feeling of fellowship online that you can get in person. Everyone agreed that in-person is preferable but due to Covid, cancellation insurance is impossible to get currently. Ann suggested looking into University dorms instead of hotels. Barbara will reach out to the two cities that had expressed interest previously and see where that interest lies for 2024. 2023 will be virtual again.

CLOSING

1. Announcements and Other Items: None

2. Adjournment

- Motion to adjourn was made by Ann, seconded by Barbara, voted on and passed (1:54 pm EDT).

3. Closed with the Serenity Prayer