

Families Anonymous
Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Directors
March 18, 2023

INTRODUCTION

- 1. Call to Order:** 12:02 pm EDT, by Maria S, Chair
- 2. Roll Call:** by Maria S.

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

- Chris moved to accept the Agenda, Cindy seconded, voted on and accepted.

4. Tradition One:

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

5. Approval of February 2023 WSB Minutes:

- Jan moved to accept the February 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 monthly financial reports for February 2023 as part of her monthly report.
- There were no other comments or questions concerning the Treasurer's Report.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committee

SC-1 Public Information
SC-2 WSO
SC-3 Literature
SC-4 Serenity Messenger Newsletter
SC-5 Bylaws, Parliamentary
SC-6 International Groups
SC-7 Budget Committee
SC-8 Sponsorship
SC-9 Group Outreach
SC-10 Financial Oversight
SC-11 Technology
SC-12 Long Range Planning

Chair

Jeff S
Maria S
Ann P
Robert S
Barbara S
Helen L
Cindy C
Helen L
Marcia C
Chris Z
Chris Y
Mike B

AD-HOC COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committee

AH-1 Convention Liaison
AH-2 Intergroup Support & Development
AH-3 Document Review

Chair

Barbara S
TBD
Ann P

AH-4 Education
AH-5 Literature Access Initiative

Marcia C
Maria S

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Recruitment of Board Members - Any additional suggestions (Maria)

We now have 14 board members and up to 25 are allowed per our by-laws. There will be an article in the upcoming edition of the Serenity Messenger explaining what the Board does and asking for volunteers to the WSB. Maria asked that we continue to recruit from our groups and will follow up with people who have contributed to the Serenity Messenger, worked on or attended conventions. The ABM is coming up in a couple months and it would be nice to have some new names on the ballot.

TABLED ITEMS:

Update on audio book version of TABW to be produced in the UK (Bob S)

Bob and Clive were in contact with the RNIB (Royal Society), a non for profit, who said they would make a “brochure for free”, not knowing that the TABW is a book. Bob told them that a written agreement laying out copyrights would need to be signed first, and later received a quote of \$5300 for them to produce the audio book. The UK FA may want to contribute to the cost, if we chose to pay for it out right. That is the first question, would we want to make this expenditure? There is a possibility, if the RNIB would agree to this, to put in the agreement that either the RNIB could sell the audio books themselves or we could pay them back slowly per book sold. The TABW will be in the British English version, one of which may be at the WSO. We need to review it to see how different it is from the American English version. The market for audio books could be bigger than for the sight impaired, many people might want to listen to the TABW while driving. We could do some of our own market research by reaching out to the Fellowship with a survey. It would be good to be able to listen to the readings according to the index, not just in daily order. For instance, one might want to hear all the readings on happiness. Therefore each reading would need to be on a different track and the tracks would need to be digitally indexed somehow. Could we possibly use a subscription service for the audio book which could bring in more money that way? We would need to

do a good financial analysis of this project before we commit. Bob and Clive will continue discussions with RNIB and return to the WSB for further discussion.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Vignettes Project (Sarah T, Jeff S) - Please provide feedback on Google Drive

Since neither Jeff nor Sarah could attend today's meeting, Maria asked that members add their thoughts to the Google Doc, and if anyone has trouble so doing, to contact Maria. There was some discussion as whether it would be acceptable for Sarah to raise funds on her own and then donate what she raises, particularly if FA endorses the project. Is that still accepting money from a 3rd party? There was also discussion of paying a board member for their expertise, when none of us are paid for any of the work we do. We are all volunteers. And if our board member made a documentary about 12 Step programs in general, not FA in particular, is that not still then a problem of affiliation? If we ask FA members for vignette specific donations, that then gets into fund accounting which we had decided as a board not to do. There were suggestions of making clips of less than perfect quality or using still stock images of people to protect anonymity, but use our recorded voices. Sarah has been putting together samples of ways to deal with anonymity on the Mike takes, so maybe those will be good enough. Discussion will continue.

2. Further update from the Literature Access Initiative (Cindy C, Chris Y, Maria S)

Cindy found a solution to the problem of ISSUU showing unrelated and sometimes inappropriate links to other sites by using the full screen version so one cannot see that you are in the ISSUU website. However, if one uses the SHARE button to share with others, then the others are taken to the ISSUU website. If one shares by copying and pasting the web address and putting that link in the email or text you are sending, then this is not a problem. We will never be able to control totally how people use it. *Are You at Wit's End*, since it has been approved by the WSB, will be put on the FA website and as soon as the others that the LAI are working on are reviewed by the LC and approved by the WSB, they also will be uploaded to the website. We will start by using the SHARE button in order to expand the number of people that hear about FA. If there are complaints from the Fellowship in the future about the ISSUU website SHARE button being a problem, the board has a means to address it.

CLOSING

1. Announcements/items forgotten to mention:

Helen asked if Greece can have their own Facebook page. Maria said they can, Jeff can help her with it and she just needs someone to monitor it daily for inappropriate content. Helen also said that Greece will convene their first convention since Covid in October for Athens and the vicinity and they are also planning a Greek Serenity Messenger type newsletter.

2. Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn was made by Mike, seconded by Helen, voted on and adjourned (1:40 pm EST).

3. Closed with the Serenity Prayer