

Families Anonymous
Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Directors
April 15, 2023

INTRODUCTION

1. Call to Order: 12:00 pm EDT, by Maria S, Chair

2. Roll Call: by Jan B.

<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	A	N
Ann P	BMAL	P	W
Bob S	BMAL	P	W
Chris Y	BMAL	P	W
Chris Z	BMAL	P	N
Clive W	BMAL	E	W
Helen L	BMAL	P	E
Jeff S	BMAL	E	W
Mike B	BMAL	P	N
Sarah T	BMAL	P	W

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:

- Jan moved to accept the Agenda, Bob 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 March 2023 WSB Minutes:

- Jan moved to accept the March WSB Minutes, Cindy 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 March 2023 in addition to the 2023-24 proposed budget 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: None

TABLED ITEMS:

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

No news currently. Maria has created a survey asking about interest in an audio TABW which will be sent out to the Fellowship later this week.

2. Vignettes Project (Sarah T):

Sarah brought up 3 main issues that need to be resolved for her to move forward:

1. What does she need to do to get full FA endorsement?
2. Anonymity
3. Financing

1. Endorsement is dependent on following FA Traditions. All on the WSB expressed excitement about the project if it can be done without compromising our Traditions. At the same time the board wants to remain positive about the vignettes and try to find a way to make it work.
2. Again, all on the WSB are in agreement that anonymity is crucial to be upheld, not only for the persons in the vignettes but for the message FA sends out to the recovery community as well. Not all are convinced that the Roto-animation is the best option, some want the most economical. Sarah brought up other options such as AI animation and blurring as well. This will continue to be worked on.
3. Financing seems to be the biggest sticking point. Soliciting funds from outside of the Fellowship compromises the Traditions, particularly when FA is sponsoring the project. If there is a benefactor who might be interested in supporting this project, s/he would need to be a member of FA. We also can reach out to the Fellowship to see if anyone wants to make a one time donation, for the vignette project, above and beyond what they would normally plan to donate to FA. Cindy clarified that targeted donations, also called fund accounting, can be an option, although up till now it has not been done in FA. There may be tax repercussions, Cindy would need to research it. It

is also clearly in our Traditions that we are not to make partnerships with outside groups.

Maria wrapped up the discussion by suggesting that the WSB focus at this time solely on the pilot vignette, to get that off the ground, as a proof of concept, and not to think now about the other vignettes or their financing. Board members will reach out to possible benefactors in the fellowship to assess their interest in this project.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. MOTION LC-1 (April 2023)

Motion: The Literature Committee moves that the WSB approve the attached revision of #7009 Are You Torn Apart?

Rationale: This revision:

- changes a portion of the subtitle, from “A Substance Abuser” to “A Loved One Who Has Substance Use Disorder”
- includes the current copyright and trademark declarations
- modifies the meeting descriptions, the information about FA, and the general wording of the text

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.

Implementation: Upon approval of this motion, the Literature Committee will:

- proof and polish this piece, as appropriate, in preparation for printing
- ask the website manager to:
 - upload this document to the Free Downloads page of the website
 - update the cover-panel photo in the e-store entry

Motion made by Ann, seconded by Mike, voted on and unanimously approved.

2. MOTION LC-2 (April 2023)

Motion: The Literature Committee moves that the WSB approve the new booklet #2003-5 Manipulation or Overprotectiveness to Release with Love: #5 in the Helping Series.

Rationale:

- This fifth booklet in the Helping Series has been created by the Literature Committee to supplement FA's Helping reading.
- Its appearance—its “pocket-size” format (4.25” x 5.5”) and its cover design—matches the first three booklets and identifies it as part of the Helping Series.

Feasibility:

- The WSB has already had an opportunity to review and make comments on this piece.
- Any comments offered by board members were considered prior to submitting this motion.

Implementation:

- The following implementation measures will follow (a) WSB approval of this motion and (b) WSB approval of #2003-4, an additional new booklet in this series that is currently in process. Upon completion of the above, the Literature Committee shall:
- proof and polish this piece, as appropriate, in preparation for printing
- coordinate with the treasurer regarding printing of this piece
- monitor the printing of this job
- add this piece to the literature catalog
- ask the WSO to send a scan of the front cover to the website manager for uploading to the e-store
- prepare a “Spotlight on Literature” article for the Serenity Messenger highlighting this piece

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

3. MOTION LC-3 (April 2023):

Motion: The Literature Committee moves that the WSB approve the attached revision of #7012 FA Fact Sheet.

Rationale:

The Literature Committee determined that this piece required updating with regard to meeting locations, meeting venues, copyright and trademark declarations, and various other text.

Feasibility:

- The WSB has already had an opportunity to review and make comments on this piece.

- Any comments offered by board members were considered prior to submitting this motion.

Implementation: Upon approval of this motion, the Literature Committee will:

- proof and polish this piece, as appropriate, in preparation for printing
- ask the website manager to:
 - upload this document to the Free Downloads page of the website
 - update the cover-panel photo in the e-store entry

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

4. MOTION: Motion to Approve the Fiscal 2023-24 Budget (Cindy C):

Cindy clarified that the budget includes a 4% raise for Angel and Nicole, our part time office workers. This raise matches the Consumer Price Index this year, whereas last year they got higher raises as they had not gotten raises for several years prior. The glaring issue in this budget is that if nothing changes, FA will run out of cash in 3.75 years. This dropped from 5 years in last year's budget due to 2 main reasons. The first reason is that we continue to lose money each year and the second is that this year we will make a big investment in the Fellowship by ordering new TABWs as inventory is running low. This will be discussed further at the ABM in June.

Motion made by Cindy, seconded by Chris Y, voted on and unanimously approved.

5. Preparation for Annual Business Meeting, June 10, 2 pm (Maria S)

Maria asked that all WSB members attend the ABM and any committee chairs who have presented in the past, please do so again. Other chairs who do not wish to present, can ask Maria to put their information in her State of the Fellowship presentation. Finally, anyone who would like to come onto the WSB, needs to fill out a Nomination form before the ABM.

6. Update from the Literature Access Initiative: status of additional e-documents (Cindy C, Chris Y, Maria S)

Are You at Wit's End? has been posted on the FA website. An e-blast will soon go out to the Fellowship asking members to share it widely in an attempt to get the word out to professionals, clergy, etc. in an attempt to grow the Fellowship.

3 more electronic literature pieces will be brought before the WSB next month, after review by the LC. One more is on its way to the LC soon.

CLOSING

1. Announcements/items forgotten to mention:

Chicagoland, who had been considering holding a convention, will likely hold only an Intergroup Convention this year. Will hear more from Barbara next month.

2. Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn was made by Mike, seconded by Ann, voted on and adjourned
(1:20pm EST).

3. Closed with the Serenity Prayer