

**Families Anonymous
Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Directors
November 18, 2023**

INTRODUCTION

1. Call to Order: 12:02 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
Chris Y	Vice Chair	P	W
Cindy C	Treasurer	P	W
Jan B	Secretary	P	W
Ann P	BMAL	P	W
Bob S	BMAL	E	E
Chris Z	BMAL	E	W
Guy B	BMAL	P	W
Helen L	BMAL	A	N
Jeff S	BMAL	P	W
Mike B	BMAL	E	N
Sarah T	BMAL	P	N
Cristina B	BMAL	A	N
Jeff F	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, 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 October 2023 WSB Minutes: Jan B

- Jan moved to accept the October WSB Minutes, Chris Y. seconded, voted on and approved. Jan to distribute.

6. Chair's Report: Maria S.

Jeff F asked about the WSB calls to group secretaries as he has been calling groups by state for the Intergroup committee. Suggested to coordinate the calling, Maria will connect with him offline to coordinate.

Chris Y said would be good to discuss at next meeting all the feedback we have gotten from the secretaries. Maria will put it on the agenda.

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

7. Treasurer's Report: Cindy C

- Cindy provided the monthly financial reports for October 2023 as part of her monthly report.
- 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	Maria S (ad interim)
SC-6 International Groups	Helen L
SC-7 Budget Committee	Cindy C
SC-8 Sponsorship	Helen L
SC-9 Group Outreach	Chris Z
SC-10 Financial Oversight	Chris Z
SC-11 Technology	Chris Y
SC-12 Long Range Planning	Mike B

AD-HOC COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committee

AH-1 Convention Liaison
AH-2 Intergroup Support & Development
AH-3 Document Review
AH-4 Education
AH-5 Literature Access Initiative

Chair

Cindy C
Jeff F
Ann P
Maria S
Maria S

Ann: LC is close to finishing the update of *Families In Crisis* of which the WSO is out of stock, so will be asking for WSB approval by email vote soon. Watch out for it!
Also, LC is taking another look at *On Property Lines*, thanks to Jeff F for his comments.

- There were no other additional updates from the Committee Chairs.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Finalization of Pilot Vignette:

As soon as Mike is feeling up to it, Sarah will add another 15 second or so recording of him stating that he and his son are now in recovery, making it a more positive, hopeful ending. She will also add more blurring, per Mike's request. Once this is completed, Sarah will send out the complete vignette, for a vote of approval of the added piece and the further blurring.

Jeff S reiterated that he feels that anonymity should be up to the individual, in this case in each video, and that he hopes this vignette will not be a standard or policy of the level of anonymity in FA videos. He has been in Education sessions that have been recorded and put up on the website with no anonymization whatsoever and he is okay with that. Others may want total anonymity and that is fine too.

Maria feels that should be some continuity in the anonymization in the FA videos, for consistency, but Sarah feels it would be good to have them all different to be more attractive to the public.

Guy feels it is important for us to see the entire video, not just the last added section. He also reminds us that anonymity is the spiritual foundation of our fellowship and sees no need for any names in the credits, except possibly Mike's. He also spoke about a bereavement group FA UK recently started and Maria will reach out to him offline to find out more since there has been interest in the US about one here as well.

Maria: Goal is to have a vote of final approval on the pilot vignette before January.
Thanks again to Sarah for all her hard work.

There was a side discussion about using the video platform as a tutorial to do a vignette on how to run an FA meeting, as Jeff F is finding that many groups are not run according to the guidelines. He feels this may be contributing to low group membership and trouble keeping newcomers. Maria will connect with Jeff offline to see about coordinating this idea with the Education session on retaining newcomers next year.

TABLED ITEMS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Opportunities to raise awareness, suggestions from Day of Sharing:

FA is now listed in 211, so when someone calls with a family crisis, a referral to FA can be made.

There were many other ideas that fall under particular committees' for followup. Maria will send out an email and would like to hear back from chairs as to their interest/ability to follow up.

2. MOTION WSO-1 (November 2023) Motion to approve holiday gift cards for WSO staff:

Maria made the motion, Ann seconded, voted on and unanimously approved.

3. MOTION (November 2023) Motion to approve price increase for #8001 - Full Literature Pack - (new price of \$95) - Cindy C.

MOTION:

Increase the price of #8001 – Full Literature Pack to \$95 effective December 1, 2023.

RATIONALE:

1. Three new titles have been added to the Full Literature Pack since the price was last set.
2. The fellowship's printing cost for 32 other titles within the Full Literature Pack have risen since the price was last set.
3. Shipping costs to receive the titles from the fellowship's vendors have risen by 47% since the price was last set.

4. We are no longer recouping the printing and shipping costs of the items within the Full Literature Pack at the current price of \$69.

IMPLEMENTATION:

On approval, (1) the price will be updated in the Literature Catalog, and (2) the website and QuickBooks will be updated to reflect new pricing as of December 1, 2023.

COST:

There is no cost.

Cindy made the motion, Jeff S seconded, voted on and unanimously approved.

4. MOTION LC-1 (November 2023). The Literature Committee moves that the WSB approve supplying one free copy of #5010 *The Twelve Traditions in Action* to each current and future WSB member.

After discussion, the WSB all agreed that no motion was needed. All current board members will familiarize themselves with #5010 *The Twelve Traditions in Action* and Maria will include in her new new board member orientation, a requirement to purchase a copy as a new board member.

CLOSING

1. Announcements/items forgotten to mention:

Happy Thanksgiving to all and remember there is no meeting in December so happy holidays as well! Maria thanks all for their work in a challenging year, asks that we think on what we can do to grow the fellowship over December and come back reenergized in January.

2. Adjournment: Adjourned at 1:07 pm ET.