

**Families Anonymous
Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Directors
November 16, 2024**

INTRODUCTION

1. Call to Order: 12:01 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
Chris Y	Vice Chair	P	W
Cindy C	Treasurer	P	W
Jan B	Secretary	E	E
Greg C	BMAL	P	W
Bob S	BMAL	P	W
Chris Z	BMAL	P	W
Guy B	BMAL	A	W
Helen L	BMAL	P	W
Lori H	BMAL	P	N
Cristina B*	BMAL	LOA	LOA

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:

- Maria moved to accept the Agenda, Bob seconded, voted on and accepted.

4. Tradition One:

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

5. Approval of October 2024 WSB Minutes

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

6. Chair's Report: Maria S

- Maria reported that she emailed the agenda for the “Day of Sharing Meeting” to the WSB. She and Greg will be attending this meeting on behalf of FA on Friday, November 22.
- 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 2024 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

TBD
Maria S
Maria S
Robert S
Maria S (ad interim)
Helen L
Cindy C
Helen L
Chris Z
Chris Z
Chris Y
Greg C

AD-HOC COMMITTEE REPORTS

<u>Committee</u>	<u>Chair</u>
AH-1 Convention Liaison	Cindy C
AH-2 Intergroup Support & Development	TBD
AH-3 Document Review	TBD
AH-4 Education	Maria S
AH-5 Literature Access Initiative	Maria S

- There were no comments or questions regarding the committee reports.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Outreach for New Board Members - Status / Next Steps (Chris Y, Bob S)

- Chris Y and Bob prepared an article for the Serenity Messenger, which highlights the work that the WSB is doing, and asks for volunteers. It was suggested we put something in every issue, such as an ad asking for volunteers.
- Cindy and Greg spoke to Barry Z, the Vice-Chair of the Chicagoland Intergroup, about getting representation from them on the WSB.
- Lori H spoke with Judy B (from her Florida group) who is interested in joining the WSB. Judy has been with FA for ~5 years, and also leads / works with other recovery groups. Lori will ask Judy to reach out to Maria.

TABLED ITEMS: NONE

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Review of the Dashboard (Cindy C)

Cindy reviewed this month's dashboard (See Attachment A).

2. Giving Tuesday / Year-End Matching Gift Status (Cindy C)

- Cindy reviewed the status of current donations; 3 individuals / couples have committed to donating so far. At least one other board member will get back to Cindy with their commitment.
- To date we do not have sufficient donations from the Board to warrant moving forward with the Giving Tuesday Matching Program.
- Since we currently have only 8 US Board members, Chris Y suggested that Maria reach out to former Board Members to see if they would be interested in contributing to the Match. Maria agreed to prepare an email and send it out later today. They would need to get back to Cindy by November 22 with the amount, but have until the end of the year to make the donation.
- Based on the responses, Cindy will determine if we have enough of a Match to move forward with the initiative.

3. Year-End Review of WSO Staff (Maria)

- The following board members volunteered to be feedback sources.
 - For Nicole: Bob, Cindy, Chris Y, Maria S
 - For Angel: Cindy, MariaMaria reported that Ann P also volunteered to serve as feedback sources for both.
- Maria will send out the feedback forms to the volunteers shortly.

4. MOTION WSO-1 (November 2024) Motion to approve holiday gift cards for WSO staff

- **Motion:** Move that we approve the following holiday gift cards for the WSO Staff:
 - \$100 Walmart gift card for Angel
 - \$100 Amazon gift card for Nicole
 - \$25 Amazon gift card for Ann (office volunteer)
 - \$25 Amazon gift card for Peggy (office volunteer)
 - \$25 Amazon gift card for Mark (building handyman)
- **Rationale:** This is an opportunity to thank the WSO staff and show our appreciation during the holidays. The suggested amounts are the same as last year.

- **Feasibility**: We have done this the past several years.
- **Implementation**: Once approved, Maria will order the gift cards and have them sent to the WSO staff. She'll submit the receipts to the Treasurer for reimbursement.
- **Cost**: Total cost is \$275.

Motion made by Maria, seconded by Lori, voted on and approved.

5. 2025 Annual Business Meeting (Maria)

- Two possible dates for the ABM are Saturday June 7, or June 14. Maria made a motion to hold the ABM on June 7. Motion was seconded by Chris Y, voted on and approved. Maria will include a "Save the Date" for the ABM in the January communication to the Group Secretaries.
- As per Cindy, the date of the annual convention will be provided by Chicagoland within the next couple of months. Maria will hold off sending out the January mailing until the date is known.
- Maria made a motion to use Zoom, instead of GoTo, for the ABM. Motion seconded by Lori, voted on and approved.

CLOSING

1. Announcements / items forgotten to mention

- Chris Y highlighted the high cost of shipping literature from the US to other countries. For example, the cost of shipping a \$4.95 item to Canada costs \$30. Maria indicated that is the impetus for bundling literature and selling it electronically on Kindle and Amazon.

2. Adjournment: Lori moved to adjourn, Bob seconded, voted on and approved. Adjourned at 12:46 pm ET.

3. Closed with Serenity Prayer

Attachment A - November Dashboard



Spread the Word!

Share FA with someone today.



FELLOWSHIP GROWTH



3

- GR2185 - Sibling Niche Group (virtual)
- GR2186 - Antigo, WI (hybrid) - Greg contacted
- GR2187 - Parents of Adolescents Niche Group (virtual)



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AWARENESS & OUTREACH



Facebook Stats

- 1,057 Engagements*
- 1,198 Followers*
- 17 Posts

Posting content every day - alternating between Facebook & Instagram

*Post 28 days (approximately Oct)



Instagram Stats

- 129 Reached~
- 31 Engagements~
- 160 Followers~
- 15 Posts

Posting content every day - alternating between Facebook & Instagram

~Post 30 days (approximately Oct)



Vignettes Project

- 670 Views on YouTube
- Next 2 Video Projects - 5 potential participants



Issuu Stats

- 37 Countries
- New: Cambodia & Switzerland

LITERATURE & EVENTS



New Publications

- Bundled 4 existing products into:

- #9005 - The Gifts Collection
- #1025 - Gifts of the Spirit
- #1034 - The Gift of Awareness
- #2008 - Serenity Prayer Card
- #3051 - Serenity Medallion



Convention

- 2024 Chicagoland Regional Convention - Nov 2
- 2025 UK Convention - Apr 5-7 Birmingham
- 2025 World Service Convention - Chicago



FA Niche Groups

- Sibling Group Launched Nov 7
- Parents of Adolescents Group Launches Dec 8



Education Sessions

- Oct 26 - Spread the Word Session Held
- Nov 23 - Help with Holidays: Unwrapping Expectations

Note: Stats are for prior month unless otherwise noted.



Spread the Word!

Share FA with someone today.

SUPPORT AND OUTREACH

FELLOWSHIP OUTREACH - NEW NICHE GROUPS

CONVENTIONS

NEW

- Launched Thursday, Nov 7
- **Online First Thursday of the Month**
- 8 Attendees at first meeting
- Online availability **reached people throughout US and Greece**
- **Gratitude expressed for offering this option** (siblings encounter unique family recovery issues)
- One participant **learned of FA** through announcement of the sibling group
- **Niche meeting concept** receiving **positive comments** from the fellowship

COMING SOON

- **Launches Sunday, Dec 8**
- Meets **Online 2nd & 4th Sundays**
- **Announcement of New Meeting:** Nov 11 - Big List email
Nov 18 - Group Secretaries email (please share at your meetings)
Dec 5 - Big List reminder email
- Lori **reaching out to parents and teen rehab counselors** to share new meeting
- FA Members expressing **strong interest** in supplemental group for parents of adolescents/young adults - feel they have **unique issues to navigate**

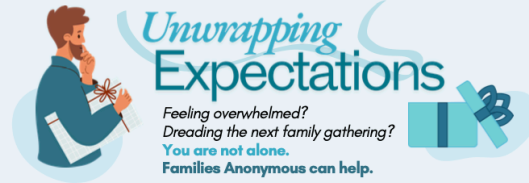
2024 CHICAGOLAND REGIONAL CONVENTION

- Held Saturday, November 2, 2024
- **100+ Attendees**
- Theme: **FA - A Beacon of Hope**
- 3 Keynote Speakers
- 8 Breakout Session Options
- Attended by Greg & Cindy (WSB Members) and Jeff (PI Committee) & Jeanne
- **Well-organized** event
- Content **relevant** to family recovery
- **Engaging** speakers
- **Host Committee for 2025 World Service Convention** in Chicago
- **Board Members encouraged to attend 2025 World Service Convention** - watch for information to come and **encourage your group members** to also attend

FELLOWSHIP OUTREACH - EDUCATION SESSIONS

Spread the Word: Raising Awareness and Planning Public Outreach

- Held Saturday, October 26
- 17 attendees
- Highlighted **key concepts** from **new resource**
- **Best practices** and proven tips for **sharing Families Anonymous**
- **Social media strategies** shared
- **Community outreach** ideas
- Session Recording and PowerPoint slides available on FA website



- **Saturday, November 23, 2024 1-2pm Eastern**
- Online Zoom Session
- Panel of 5 FA members will share strategies for holidays and other family gatherings
- 3 Emails to Announce/Remind Event
- 2 Social Media Posts to Announce/Remind Event