

Families Anonymous
Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Directors
February 15, 2025

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	P	W
Greg C	BMAL	P	W
Bob S	BMAL	P	W
Chris Z	BMAL	P	W
Guy B	BMAL	E	W
Helen L	BMAL	E	E
Lori H	BMAL	P	W
Judy B	BMAL	P	W
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, Cindy 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 January, 2025 WSB Minutes

- Jan moved to accept the January, 2025 WSB Minutes, Chris Y seconded, voted on and approved. Jan to distribute.

6. Chair's Report: Maria S

Maria pointed out that the plan is to have the PDF list of Education videos with links to the recordings, be the first thing you see when you go to that tab on the website.

- 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 January, 2025 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

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

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
Greg
Jan
Maria S
Maria S

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: NONE

TABLED ITEMS: NONE

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Review of the Dashboard (Cindy C) (See Attachment A).

Growth: No new groups this month, Group Outreach with potential new groups in Appleton, WI, Charleston, WV and Sydney, OH. No starter kits purchased. 3 groups closed this month.

Awareness & Outreach: Facebook, Instagram interactions and Video views continue to grow. (729 views on YouTube)

Literature and Events:

2025 Conventions: UK April 11 - 13, WS Convention in Chicago suburb of Oakbrook, July 25 - 27. Encourage all Board members to attend and build interest in your groups.

Niche Groups: All three going well. New teen siblings and Spoused/S.O. groups in the works.

Education: Future offerings: Sponsorship, Co-Dependency and Bipolar Disorder. Maria added that the Virtual Sponsorship program not taking off, so the Ed. Co. is thinking to revive the 12 Step Workshop that FA ran during the pandemic.

Convention Update! World Service Convention will be held at the Chicago Marriott Oakbrook, July 25 - 27. Theme: The Present: A Gift You Give Yourself. The discounted rate at the hotel will cover a few days before and after the convention. A great opportunity for virtual groups to meet fellow members in person. Stay tuned for more details...

2. MOTION LC-1 (February 2025): The Literature Committee moves that the WSB approve the new literature piece, *Changing Our Attitudes, Changing Ourselves* (#1039). Maria

Prior to today's meeting, Maria had sent out the final edition for WSB review.

Motion made by Maria, Greg seconded, voted on and approved unanimously.

3. MOTION LC-2 (February 2025): Literature Committee moves that the WSB approve the LC's recommendations concerning new Spanish translations. Maria

These translations are available as free downloads at this time, so no need to keep them as inventory.

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

4. MOTION: To approve the proposed updates to the following convention related PPG documents (Cindy):

- PPG-14 – FA World Service Convention Policy
- PPG-15 – Convention Guidelines
- PPG-16 – Convention Emergency Preparedness and Sample Emergency Response Plan

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

5. MOTION: To approve updated review dates for PPG-20 Policy on Development and Maintenance of a Credentials List (Chris Y)

Only needed to update the review date.

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

6. MOTION: To delist the following groups who have failed to re-register in 2024: 1) #2137, Eldorado, KS 2) #2143 Parma, OH. (Chris Z)

These groups no longer meet.

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

7. Document Review Committee - Jan

Thanks to Cindy, Greg and Chris Y for reviewing their documents promptly. Encourage the others of you who received emails, to update and send out to WSB for review before making a motion.

As for the PPG-13, Literature Committee procedures, the current PPG does not reflect what happens in reality in the following ways:

1. The LC no longer decides on reordering, the Treasurer does.
2. The PPG needs to be updated to include PDFs and electronic versions, not just paper copies.
3. Translations are currently under PPG-4, International Groups, but in practice, Ann from the LC is solely handling all Translations, from start to finish.

Jan has taken a first stab at updating PPG-13 and sent it out to Ann, Cindy and Maria for review. Jan also reached out to Chair of International Groups regarding transferring the Translation piece which now resides in PPG-4, to PPG-13, but has not heard back (Chair had a fall recently). So question to the Board is if there are thoughts of how to proceed.

Maria suggested that Chair of International Groups will be happy to have Translations taken off her plate. The LC procedures should reflect what is actually happening in terms of Translations and state that the LC will keep the International Groups committee informed and in the loop.

Maria will send out the PPGs that she reviews by email, she has finished one and continues to work on the others.

Chris will send out final version of the Internet policy, PPG-5, as soon as it is completed.

Cindy will add the piece about the Treasurer's role to PPG-13.

8. Succession Planning for Board Members - Maria

Currently there are 11 members on the board, 6 of whom will be at the end of their terms as of June, 2025. Maria hopes that these 6 will agree to continue on the WSB for another term in some role. Maria has been the chair for 2 terms now and feels it is time to rotate leaders as per our Traditions. She will stay on the board not as chair and is willing to help anyone who takes the Chair position as much as possible. She will be reaching out to board members who have been on the board for at least a year, about serving as chair. Treasurer and Chair cannot be spouses.

Greg has been looking for more board members from the Chicagoland Intergroup and will keep pursuing that. Lori is asking a member of the Parents of Adolescents group to join the board as well.

CLOSING

1. Announcements / items forgotten to mention:

Maria found that the Wordpress platform, which we already have for our website (and which got the best reviews) has a Plug-in Paywall which we can use to sell subscriptions to literature/resources. This seems like a clean way to go. Cindy raised the question from before when we discussed this, how do we keep the subscriber from sharing the literature with others? There may be safeguards to prevent that. Chris Y will take the lead and speak to Brian, Bob

and Maria will help out. There are many questions that the board will have to grapple with, but it seems doable,

Greg brought up 2 issues. First the 3 niche groups are all doing well, time to start thinking about starting some more. The spouse/S.O. group got a bump from an email Greg received from a spouse who wants an FA virtual group during the day when her spouse is out of the house. In general we need more daytime options, and Cindy suggested lunchtime might be an option especially if both spouses are working. Time zones may interfere with that, though. Greg, Judy and Lori met to discuss another niche group for Teens, most likely teen siblings but could also be teens partners or parents. Maria suggested that instead of posting the Zoom link generally, the teen group might need a person monitoring who gets on, etc. She will also reach out to her connections at AlAnon to find out what rules apply to teens in their AlATeen groups. What would be the age range for this group? Judy said she runs a group for 13 - 18 year olds and it is important to safeguard the ages in the group.

The second topic Greg brought up is the attendance by WSB members at Virtual FA groups. We want to create a warm connection between the WSB and the Fellowship. This effort may help struggling groups, and it might be a good way to identify new potential board members. Those that do it can share back to the board what they learn. There are currently 88 virtual meetings which will be divided up among Greg, Bob, Maria, and Chris Z on the board, as well as possibly Nadine (who is on the SM committee), Mike B and Jeff S, all of whom might be interested.

Cindy asked from the Convention planners, how many conventions have been held so far? No one knows the answer off the top of their heads.

2. Adjournment: Lori moved to adjourn, Judy seconded, voted on and approved. Adjourned at 1:06 pm ET.

3. Closed with Serenity Prayer



Spread the Word!

Share FA with someone today.

JANUARY 2025 STATISTICS

FELLOWSHIP GROWTH



New Groups

- No new groups in January
- Group Outreach contact with potential new groups
 - Appleton, WI
 - Charleston, WV
 - Sydney, OH

0

Starter Kits

- No purchases in January

0

Closed

- 1359 - Clifton Park, NY
- 1382 - Schaumburg, IL
- 2182 - Weyers Cave, VA

3

AWARENESS & OUTREACH



Facebook Stats

- 1,700 Reached*
- 506 Interactions*
- 1,294 Followers*

Posting content every day - alternating between Facebook & Instagram

*Post 28 days (approximately Jan)

Instagram Stats

- 148 Reached~
- 197 Interactions~
- 193 Followers~

Posting content every day - alternating between Facebook & Instagram

*Post 30 days (approximately Jan)

Vignettes Project

- 729 Views on YouTube

LITERATURE & EVENTS



New Publications

Convention

- 2025 UK Convention - Apr 5-7
- 2025 Convention - Jul 25-27 - Chicago (Oak Brook, IL)
- Bereavement Support
 - Sibling Group
 - Parents of Adolescents
- New Niche Group Ideas:
 - Spouses & Significant Others
 - Teens

FA Niche Groups

Education Sessions

- Future Offerings:
 - Sponsorship
 - Bipolar Disorder
 - Codependency

Note: Stats are for January 2025 unless otherwise noted.

2025 CONVENTION UPDATE



- **July 25-27, 2025**
- **Chicago Marriott Oak Brook**
 - Chicago suburb conveniently located between Chicago O'Hare & Midway airports
 - Plenty of free parking
 - Across from Oakbrook Center (mall)
- **Theme: The Present: A Gift You Give Yourself**
- **Host Committee** meetings and planning underway
- **Board Members encouraged to attend**
- **Share Convention Info**
 - ask your group members to "Save the Date"
- **Great opportunity for virtual meeting attendees to gather together in person**