

Families Anonymous
Final Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Directors
July 18, 2026

INTRODUCTION

1. Call to Order: 12:02 pm ET, by Greg C

2. Roll Call: Julia C

<u>Name</u>	<u>WSB Role</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Monthly Report</u>
Greg C	Chair	P	W
Chris Y	Vice Chair	P	W
Geri N	Treasurer	P	W
Julia C	Secretary	P	W
Maria S	BMAL	P	W
Bob S	BMAL	P	W
Jeff S	BMAL	P	W
Paul W	BMAL	P	L
Claire S	BMAL	P	W
Lori H	BMAL	P	W
Judy B	BMAL	P	W
Karin H	BMAL	P	W
Cheryl	BMAL	E	W
Cindy C	BMAL	E	L

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: Greg C

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

4. Tradition One Volunteer – Maria : *“Our common welfare should come first; personal progress for the greatest number depends on unity.*

5. Approval of June, 2026 WSB Minutes

- Greg moved to accept the June2026 WSB minutes, Bob S seconded, voted on and approved. Greg to distribute.

6. Chair's Report: Greg C. – No Questions

7. Treasurer's Report: Greg C – No Questions

8. Motion LC-1 (July 2026) – Maria S introduced #1042 plus addition to Learning Library

Motion: The Literature Committee moves that the WSB approve the new literature piece #1042 Am I Contributing to the Problem and that it be added to the Learning Library and made available for print.

Rationale

- This is a new piece which would be added to the Learning Library.
- Because it is a complimentary piece to #1033 The Three C's x 2, the LC recommends
- that this piece also be provided for sale in the e-store.

Feasibility

- This piece had been provided to the WSB for review. Feedback was received, incorporated into the updated version, and re-sent to the WSB on June 24 for final review. No further changes have been suggested.

Cost

- There is no cost incurred for entering the piece in the Learning Library.
- The cost for printing would be determined if approved by the WSB.

Implementation:

- If approved, the piece will be entered in the Learning Library; date of it's publication to
- be determined by the WSB (i.e., available at launch, or at a later time).
- If approved for printing, the Literature Committee will:
 - obtain price quotes and request a purchase order from the treasurer;
 - proof and polish this piece before sending it to the printer;
 - oversee printing of this piece;
 - add this piece to the literature catalog, and request that the website manager add it to the e-store.
 - The LC suggests that the piece be sold for \$3.00 (the price of similar 20-page booklets).

Maria moved to accept motion. Karin seconded. Motion unanimously accepted.

9. MOTION LC-2 (July 2026)) – Maria introduced a motion entitled Discontinued literature

Motion: The Literature Committee moves that the WSB approve archiving historical information about FA under the “About FA” page of the website.

Rationale:

- This historical information was previously part of #7007 Spread the Word About FA Sidebars, which will no longer be sold.
- The information from #7007(minus the side bars) is now provided as an e-resource #7007E.
- As historical information, it is more appropriate for the sidebar information to appear in the “About FA” page of the website.
- This information would otherwise be lost.

Feasibility:

- A pdf of the historical information can be created for posting on the website. A link to that page can be placed on the “About FA” section of the website. (See text below, added in red).

Cost:

- There is no cost incurred for doing this.

Implementation:

- If approved, the LC will provide Nicole with a pdf to be loaded onto the website, and have the link inserted into the “About FA” page.

[From the drop-down “About FA” menu tab. Proposed new text is in red.]

About FA

What is Families Anonymous?

Families Anonymous celebrated our 50th Anniversary in 2021. We were formed in 1971 by a group of concerned parents in California who were seeking ways of dealing with the problem of substance abuse and addiction in their children. [Click here for interesting historical information about FA’s earliest years.](#) Our members include parents, grandparents, siblings, spouses, significant others, other family members and friends of those with a current, suspected or former drug problem. We have been one of the best kept secrets in the recovery community, even though we have groups throughout the world.

Families Anonymous is a 12 Step fellowship for the families and friends who have known a feeling of desperation concerning the destructive behavior of someone very near

to them, whether caused by drugs, alcohol, or related behavioral problems. When you come into our rooms you are no longer alone, but among friends who have experienced similar problems. Any concerned person is encouraged to attend our meetings, even if there is only a suspicion of a problem.

Your identity is protected in our meetings. We know each other by our first names only. Anonymity of our members is paramount to the success of our program. Not only is anonymity an underlying principle of the program, but it is so important that it is part of our name.

You have nothing to lose but your pain and anger. Read on if you are ready to find the peace and serenity that our members have found through the working of the FA program.

These readings may be helpful to your understanding more about FA:

[“Click here” from above, brings you to this page which contains “sidebar” information that was in #7007:]

FA’s First Four Years — Just in Case You’re Wondering

1971

April 29: FA’s first organizational meeting takes place in southern California, attended by more than 50 members.

May 5: At FA’s second meeting, foundational topics are discussed, and many decisions are made. The fellowship’s name is selected from among 30 that are submitted. FA’s bylaws are drafted. A Literature Committee is established. The first draft of *A Basic Pamphlet* (#1001) is circulated. *A Guide for the Family of the Drug Abuser* (#1002) is finalized and readied for printing.

The group sets up shop in Culver City, California, in a suite shared with an accountant. The rent for this small space is \$60/month. FA remains in Culver City for 40 years, until relocating to Des Plaines, Illinois, in 2011.

Public-information opportunities are pursued, including a presentation to probation officers and student drug-users at a school, an FA discussion on a radio station, and a write-up in *Inventory* (a quarterly magazine on substance abuse).

1972

January: FA leases its first office, for six months, at a cost of \$90/month.

February: Letters begin arriving from out of state.

March: Discussions commence about tax-exempt status, which leads to FA’s incorporation, and about liability insurance for officers. Active groups start in North Carolina.

May: Drafts of a suggested meeting format and the earliest “basic readings” are reviewed.

June: FA's bylaws are approved. The title for FA's newsletter – *The Twelve Step Rag* – is chosen from among 31 entries.

August: *The Twelve Step Rag* banner is designed. Nonprofit status is attained on August 31. Five literature publications, including *A Father Faces Drug Abuse* (#1003), are completed.

Public-information work includes articles in the *Los Angeles Times*; outreach to schools and police diversion programs; radio and TV news coverage and taped interviews; articles for health magazines; presentations to the local Delinquency and Crime Prevention program and probation department; panel discussions; literature for libraries.

1973

Dunn Brothers in Hawthorne, California, prints FA literature in its "down time" for a number of years. The only cost to FA is the paper. This gives the fellowship a large financial boost.

Members are on the lookout for public-information opportunities, driving considerable distances to speak at all manner of conferences, seminars, and workshops on legal, public, and health-information issues.

New groups are forming all over the country. There is interest in establishing Spanish-speaking groups and translating FA literature into Spanish.

1974

Out-of-state groups are forming so rapidly that the WSO is swamped with requests for information. Anonymity is defined more specifically with regard to public-information communications. More than 30 public-information activities take place in 1974.

Maria moved to pass the motion. Karin seconded. Motion unanimously passed.

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

Chair

Jeff S
Greg C
Maria S
Bob S
Maria S
Greg C
Geri N
Lori H
Karin H.S.
Cindy C
Chris Y

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 C
TBD
Maria S
Maria S

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: NONE

TABLED ITEMS: NONE

NEW BUSINESS: NONE

CLOSING

1. Announcements / items forgotten to mention:

Group Outreach committee – Greg mentioned two topics brought up by Karin worthy of discussion

a. Getting the word out

Greg: Virginia Group struggling on how to grow FA. Talked about the strenuous effort without much payback. Opened the floor to new ideas.

Karin: VA group #874 is an older group who began seeing a decline in new memberships in the Spring of 2025. WSB could utilize Paul, the newer group secretary to form a subcommittee to address the roadblocks while maintaining the energy to do something. New ideas are in the works.

Lori: Website support, perhaps visiting rehab centers.

Maria S: Create community of practice to bring groups together to take action

Jeff S: In addition to rehab centers/therapists, house of worships may be an option. Possible Outreach speaker team.

Paul: Supermarkets, police stations and doctors offices to drop off “leave behind” materials

Bob: Visited local churches, pastors, drug court with brochures, which takes a prolonged repeated effort that did not produce results.

Greg: Repeated grass roots efforts with little progress is still worth it. Don’t want to discourage any one. If you’re energized to put in the time, then do it.

Judy: Encourage new comers to SOS Niche Groups through therapists or qualifiers’ program. Grass roots does work. There’s a season for every thing. Encouragement and consistency is the key.

Jeff: Experience with houses of worship didn’t really work out. Due to the level of shame quality of the disease, clergy tends to handle in house and generally do not refer people. Recovery centers can be chaotic, and relationships matter. They want their clients and their support system to get healthy, so they tend to recommend outside groups, such as FA.

Karin: Tuesday Texas Chapter gets referrals by many local Texas rehabs.

Maria: Mike B, former board member to share his feedback with radio stations.

Paul: Utilize PSAs

Greg: Keep Paul’s energy going

Paul: emphasized the importance of attracting not promoting, not to breach FAs traditions.

Karin: Will keep that in mind.

Jeff: Lots of gray areas as far as traditions go.

Maria: Mike B would not be speaking on behalf of FA, only sharing his personal experiences.

Greg: Karin as outreach chair does a great job and will continue to talk about this important topic.

b. Two person staff

Greg: While our staff is doing a great job, Jennifer is looking for more work within our organization. Nicole has had some health issues, and the ebb & flow of her work depends on her health. Nicole was encouraged by Greg to utilize Jennifer when necessary.

Bob: Nicole to show Jennifer the design process for messenger as backup support.

Lori: Jennifer is doing a great job with positive feedback.

c. Directory on Website

Greg: Nicole updates the website. Directory is not functional or user friendly. We have been utilizing Meredith to develop a new site map>

However, website progress has stalled due to Meredith's job demands. Brian would be a potential paid resource to support the website and directory development once he gets the learning library launched.

Karin: virtual groups involved with PDF member names, and how it falls on the website.

Chris Y: Good idea to utilize a paid employee in order to get the website in good working order.

Greg: Meredith has done a lot of leg work. Brian can help execute and set up to utilize an App. May cost a few dollars, but development of updated website is likely worth it.

d. Legacy Gift

Greg: David Martin, former treasurer passed away and donated his money to FA. Greg to get with Jennifer to read the document to see the gift amount. FA also wants to get a thank you note to the spouse.

Paul: What is the FA limit? UK bylaws have a limit of Legacy giving due to giving to the poor. Paul will look up bylaws for next meeting.

Maria: Document on Legacy giving on the website under Giving.

Jeff: Planned giving letter – no limit referenced

Bob: Pretty sure there is no limit.

2. Adjournment: Judy moved to adjourn, Karin seconded, voted on and approved. Adjourned at 12:56 pm ET.

3. Closed with Serenity Prayer.