

Regional Delegate Report May 10, 2008

Hi all,

I'd like to tell you that I had a nice vacation in Woodland Hills. As a matter of fact it was a lot of work. Except for a trip to the World Service Office for lunch and a tour I don't think I got much further than a quarter mile from the hotel. I will admit that I had a very nice hotel room that I spent very little time in.

I also barely managed to squeeze in a GSR Workshop at Mission Peak. I was scheduled to do the workshop on the Sunday I was returning from the WSC. Because my original flight got canceled and my actual flight got put in a 45-minute holding pattern over Monterey I wasn't able to go home at get what I needed for the workshop. Fortunately I'm pretty good at winging it; and the Mission Peak ASC was very cordial. It was actually quite productive. The GSRs were very honest about the struggles they're going through. My hope is that, rather than waiting for NAWS to come up with the tools that our GSRs and RCMs need to be more effective trusted servants, we can start developing our own.

WSZF (Western States Zonal Forum)

Our annual WSZF meeting is coming up in July. We'll be meeting in Seattle, Washington. The forum also meets at the WSC. At that meeting Matt and I expressed our long-standing concerns about the effectiveness of the forum.

Unlike many Zonal Forums, Western States is strictly a sharing forum. We have even met some resistance to having NAWS doing workshops.

It has long been a given, with the NorCal RDs, that we give much more than we get from the WSZF. We have been okay with this because being able to share our experience with others has justified the travel costs. However, over the last couple of years it seems that all we do is talk about the same topics year after year. There is so much to, in regards to training and making positive changes to the service structure, that we feel that the forum needs to change direction.

In this spirit we suggested that most of this year's forum be turned over to doing an inventory of what the direction of the forum should be. Rather than having NAWS do workshops we will be requesting that they facilitate the inventory.

While I was at the WSC the RD from Alaska introduced himself and asked me about WSZF. Alaska, being an isolated community, finds it hard to keep in touch with its neighbors. He said that if it were okay with WSZF, and if his region could find the money to send him, he would like to attend our Seattle meeting. I told him that if his region couldn't find enough money to send him I'd ask our RSC if we could help. I think it would be a great way for us to help one of our fellow regions. If you agree next month I'll let you know what they need.

WSC (World Service Conference)

What Matt and I are going to do is give you the business sessions this month and the rest of the conference over the next month or two. I'll give you the results of the CAR motions (old business) and Matt will give you a minute-by-minute account of the 11-hour new business session (Friday actually started at 9am and ended at 1:15am).

Old Business

115 Total Voting Members (67 for 2/3rd) (52 for Simple Majority)

For the most part Old Business (CAR Motions) pretty much went as expected.

It was M/C World Board, Motion #13:

To use the proposed WSC Rules of Order on a trial basis for WSC 2008.

Intent: To allow the conference to use the Rules before they are voted on in New Business.

Action: Motion carried by voice vote.(NorCal voted Yes)

From this point on we were working with the Rules of Order as they appeared in the CAT. The most significant change was that rather than abstaining the new rules made it possible to vote as "present but not casting a vote", which unlike an abstention does not factor into the number of votes for a majority.

After approving the WSC 2006 minutes we moved into the CAR motions.

It was M/C World Board Motion #1:

To replace the existing stories in the Fifth Edition Basic Text Narcotics Anonymous with those contained in Addendum B.

Intent: To create a Sixth Edition Basic Text with stories that are more current and that better represents our global fellowship

Action: Motion carried by unanimous consent.

As you may have heard through Matt's email I made an attempt to amend motion 1.

Following is the exact wording of my motion:

- **Motion 45:** Amend Motion 1 by adding the following language: except the story "The only Requirement", which be replaced by a story selected by the World Board from deleted from the Sixth Edition review draft.

Although I had no expectations that my motion would garner much support I felt that, based on input from our CAR assemblies, it was important for our members who believe that this story should not have been added to the 6th edition without going through the full fellowship approval process to at least have their objections noted in the record.

Although there was very little support I did have more than a couple of RDs come to me after the vote and say that they supported the motion but could not go against how their CAR ballots told them to vote. That sentiment really made me feel grateful to do service for an RSC like ours; one that thinks of their RDs as more the just mail carriers for CAR ballots.

After the amendment failed we voted to approve motion 1

It was M/C World Board Motion #2:

- To approve the remaining revisions to the Fifth Edition Basic Text, *Narcotics Anonymous*, as represented in Addendum B. This includes
- the Preface to the Sixth Edition,
- the titles “Our Program” and “Our Members Share,” which would replace the titles “Book One” and “Book Two” respectively,
- the Introduction to Our Members Share,
- the abstracts,
- the reflections, and
- the titles and descriptions for the sections “Beginnings,” “Coming Home,” “Regardless of ... ,” and “Life on Life’s Terms.”

Intent: To include the remainder of the material contained in Addendum B in the Sixth Edition Basic Text; this includes the removal of the titles “Book One” and “Book Two.”

Action: Motion carried by unanimous consent

There was a motion to amend motion 2. The maker wanted each subhead of motion 1 voted on separately. The maker didn't do a great job of explaining why they wanted to put the delegates through the painstaking process of six different motions. I believe they had a problem with the abstracts. **(NorCal vote NO on the amendment)**

It was M/C World Board, Motion #3:

To allow the World Board to approve updates to the statistical information (the numbers of meetings, countries, and so on) in the Preface to the Sixth Edition Basic Text *Narcotics Anonymous* regularly with an “as of” date in the footnote.

Intent: To allow statistical representation of the fellowship in the Basic Text to be kept current.

Action: carried by unanimous consent

It was M/C World Board Motion #4:

To approve the removal of the specific source citations in *Just for Today* for versions of literature no longer in print and to include, at the beginning of the book, an explanation that quotes without a citation are from previous versions of NA literature. Also to approve the use of a footnote in the foreword to *Just for Today* to update the reference to the Fifth Edition of the Basic Text.

Intent: To not require a new edition of *Just for Today* each time existing literature is updated, changed, or replaced.

Action: Motion carried by unanimous consent

It was M/C World Board Motion #5:

To approve the inclusion of an updated and revised index in the Sixth Edition of the Basic Text, *Narcotics Anonymous*.

Intent: To create a more useable index for the text.

Action: Motion carried by voice vote as amended

This motion was amended as follows:

Motion 70: Amendment to Motion 5 - To return the word attitude to the index for the 6th Edition Basic Text. (91 YES) (1 NO) (4 Abstaining) (1 Present) **Pass (NorCal voted no)**

The exclusion of the word attitude was evidently a mistake cause by the daunting task of creating an index for a volume the size of the Basic Text.

It was M/C World Board, Motion #6:

To approve two specific copyedits to the Basic Text *Narcotics Anonymous*: First, to replace the name “N.A.” (with periods after the two capital letters) with “NA” (with no periods). Second, to remove the footnote in Tradition Eleven that mentions *A Guide to Public Information Newly Revised*.

Intent: To make our Basic Text more consistent with other NA fellowship-approved recovery literature.

Action: Motion carried by voice vote **(NorCal voted Yes)**

It was at this point that Matt sort of saved the day. Everyone was so caught up with getting through business, that the facilitator moved right into the next motion. Matt raised our blue card (business stops to address what ever issue the raiser of the card has) and reminded the body that with the passage of motion 6 our fellowship had just approved its first truly international Basic Text. At that point everyone in the room stood up and applauded, hugged and just generally went crazy. The RD from Western Russia was particularly moved that there will now be a story from a Russian member in the Basic Text. Matt was slightly admonished by the facilitator. Evidently, using the blue card to make the facilitator cry is considered somewhat out of order!

It was M/C World Board Motion #7:

To replace the existing IP #13, *Youth and Recovery*, with the revised draft contained in Addendum C and change the title of this IP to *By Young Addicts, For Young Addicts*.

Intent: To replace the existing informational pamphlet with a more current reflection of our experience.

Action: Motion carried by unanimous consent.

An amendment was made to motion 7 (see below). The makers wanted to approve the new youth IP while at the same time keeping the current version.

It was M/S/F Brian S (RD Nebraska)/Rod D (RD Mid-America), Motion #40

To substitute the following language for Motion 7: To accept the revised draft contained in Addendum C and title it *By Young Addicts, For Young Addicts*.

Intent: To retain IP 13 *Youth and Recovery* and have both IPs as an asset to the recovery of young addicts.

Action: Motion failed by standing vote (29 in favor / 64 opposed / 4 abstaining / 7 present, not Voting. (NorCal voted No)

It was M/C World Board, Motion #8:

To approve the draft of *For the Parents or Guardians of Young People in NA* contained in Addendum E as IP#27.

Intent: To have an informational pamphlet that helps explain Narcotics Anonymous to the parents and guardians of young recovering addicts.

Action: Motion carried by voice vote. (NorCal voted Yes)

Amazingly, even though Anthony E.(WSO Executive Director) had all but told us that NAWs is going back to Roman Numerals, some delegates felt that beating this horse until it was dead was not enough. Therefore they kept beating it all the way to the glue factory.

Motion #9: It was M/S/F Art D (RD Tri-State)/Clif G (RD California Mid-State)

To add English Roman Numeral Medallions in Bronze to NAWs inventory as a specialty item and direct the World Board to price them accordingly.

Intent: To add this item back to NAWs inventory in English only for those who prefer them over the standard Arabic numeral medallions and sell them as a specialty item.

Action: Motion failed by voice vote. (NorCal voted No)

Motion #10: It was M/S/F Sherry V (RD Central Atlantic)/Dwayne B (RD Northern New Jersey)

To direct the World Board to add to NAWs inventory Roman numeral medallions in all

current finishes and languages produced by NAWS. Whether these medallions are an addition to inventory or a replacement for the current Arabic numbered medallions is left to NAWS discretion.

Intent: To reinstate Roman numeral medallions in NAWS inventory

Action: Motion failed by voice vote. (NorCal voted NO)

Motion #11: It was M/S/F Dwayne B (RD Northern New Jersey)/Bob B (RD Western New York)

To direct the World Board to provide financial support to the Northern New Jersey Region in the amount of \$36,000.

Intent: To have NAWS assist with a portion of legal expenses incurred by the Northern New Jersey Region.

Action: Motion failed by voice vote. (NorCal voted NO)

It was M/S/F Laura Z (RD New Jersey)/ David M (RD Greater New York),
Motion #12:

To require that all NA Service pamphlets intended for group and individual use be included in the *Conference Agenda Report* for approval.

Intent: To give the approval of service related pamphlets intended for group and individual use to the World Service Conference.

Action: Motion failed by standing vote (33 in favor / 62 opposed / 1 abstaining / 4 present, not voting) (NorCal voted No)

As we talked about at last month's RSC, our goal was to see some sort of compromise on World Board Approved Literature. Following is that compromise:

New Business Motion #23: It was M/C World Board

To adopt the proposed *Approval Processes for NA Material* as a replacement for the current section for *Approval Process for Service Material* and amend the *Approval Process for Recovery Literature in A Guide to World Services in NA*.

Note: The proposed language appears in the Conference Approval Track material except for the paragraph from the "World Board Approved" section which was amended without objection to read as follows:

All service related informational pamphlets, whether Conference Approved or World Board Approved, are easily distinguishable from recovery pamphlets by their appearance and should be used by members, groups, and service committees as a resource rather than being read in an NA Meeting. **Before**

approval and distribution, Service Pamphlets will be sent out to conference participants for a 90-day review and input. Service tools, PR material, bulletins, and other material will continue to be developed and approved by the World

Board.The World Board has long been able to approve bulletins but these bulletins only had limited distribution to those who knew that they were available.

The advantage of this approval process for informational pamphlets is that material is made readily available, and can be easily changed or pulled from inventory if there are concerns.

Intent: To create a new section for GWSNA that reflects current practice and creates policy for the approval of service material by the World Board adopted at WSC 2006.

Action: Motion carried as amended by voice vote. (NorCal voted Yes)

More to com

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