

## 2016 CAR Report Summary

### WORLD BOARD MOTIONS

#### Motion 1

To approve the book contained in Addendum A, “Guiding Principles: The Spirit of Our Traditions,” as

Fellowship-approved recovery literature.

**Intent:** To have an additional piece of Fellowship-approved material available about our Traditions for use by NA members, groups, and service committees.

**Financial Impact:** The cost of creating this material has already been incurred. The only additional costs that would result from adopting this motion are initial production costs, which would be minimal.

**History in a nutshell:** The idea of the traditions book has been brought up for many years, with the first major attempt at the project brought to the WSC from a region who had written their own literature like it in 2004. Since that time, starting in 2012, there has been a two year information gathering project seeking input from the NA worldwide fellowship about what the fellowship would like included in the book. After this two year period the initial drafts were created with over 2500 pages of input from NA groups worldwide, with each chapter/section released in staggering intervals with an allotted amount of time for feedback and revision. This process allowed for worldwide feedback on the initial draft of the book, and has led to the chapters all being cut down in length by ¼ of what they were originally, and question sections for individuals, group and service bodies.

The approval draft is in the CAR report and available at [na.org](http://na.org).

#### Motion 2:

To approve the following changes to the World Board External Guidelines contained in A Guide to World Services in NA (GWSNA):

- To change the size of the Board from up to 18 members to up to 15 members.
- To remove the obligation for staggered terms if more than eight (8) members are elected at one time.
- To change the limitation from two consecutive terms to two terms in a lifetime.

**Intent:** There are actually three intents: one to reduce the maximum size of the World Board for effectiveness and financial sustainability; second, to eliminate the requirement for terms of less than six years for some members; and third, to limit the number of terms for which any member is eligible for election to the World Board.

**Financial Impact:** If this motion is adopted, we estimate that we would reduce costs by \$50,000 to \$70,000 per cycle. That is an estimate of the cost of three members attending eight

board meetings in the course of a Conference cycle and the World Service Conference. The cost varies depending on where a member is traveling from.

### **REGIONAL MOTIONS**

#### **Motion 3:**

That the NA World Board develop a project plan which includes a budget and timeline to create an informational pamphlet specifically about mental illness and recovery for consideration at the 2018 World Service Conference.

**Intent:** To have a fellowship approved, clear Narcotics Anonymous message about the important issue of mental illness and recovery that is available in a pamphlet format.

**Maker:** Eastern New York Region

**Financial Impact:** This motion would not have any real direct costs. Any costs would be projected and communicated in a future project plan.

**Rationale by Region:** While there is material on the issue of mental illness in the booklet, "In Times of Illness," it does not adequately address the multitude of issues that face addicts in recovery who also suffer from diagnosed mental illness: how the Narcotics Anonymous program balances the need for prescribed mind and mood altering medication management with the idea of complete abstinence; the stigma associated with mental illness and fear of judgment from others in recovery; the possible need for additional therapeutic treatment outside of self-help groups; how groups can help make addicts suffering from mental illness feel welcome in NA meetings; the sponsor-sponsee relationship and importance of not treating a sponsor like a doctor; and other relevant issues. The Narcotics Anonymous message about mental illness and recovery continues to be a gray area, and it will be helpful to both newcomers and oldtimers alike to have a fellowship approved, widely accessible information pamphlet available as a resource.

**World Board:** We have added this idea to the literature survey included in this *CAR*. We hope that the survey will result in discussions about what the Fellowship as a whole wants to see developed. If adopted, this motion would direct the World Board to develop a project plan for consideration at WSC 2018. We are already planning to engage the delegates at WSC 2016 about the results of the survey and what service material and recovery literature the Fellowship would like to see developed.

#### **Motion 4:**

**That all future approved World Board Minutes be posted on na.org for download.**

**Intent:** To create accessibility to all World Board minutes.

**Maker:** Show Me Region

**Financial Impact:** Any estimate of cost here would only be a projection. The actual cost to post material to na.org is minimal.

**Rationale by Region:** None

**World Board:** We do provide copies of approved minutes from World Board meetings to any member who requests them, but there are several reasons why we do not post the World Board minutes online. *NAWS News*, which is published after each Board meeting, is our regular reporting mechanism. It is produced in five languages at an annual cost of approximately \$25,000. Our minutes are only in English, and we are not clear what purpose it would serve to post them online. *NAWS News* contains a fuller description of our activity and thoughts on issues than our minutes because it covers our decisions and thinking to date on issues, and gives context and explanation for our activity and discussions. Much of what is covered in *NAWS News* did not happen in one Board meeting, and the minutes can actually be misleading without that additional information. As a Board, we interact by email, webinars, and other means to develop ideas and have ongoing discussions that are not reflected in any one set of minutes.

A second reason we do not post World Board minutes online is the possible legal implications of doing so. NA World Services is often dragged into lawsuits for local issues because parties bringing a lawsuit look for the NA service body with the most resources. Minutes posted online are considered legally binding records of a corporation and may provide more ammunition for these types of legal actions. If we are required to post our minutes online, we would most likely change the style of our minutes to include only what is legally required.

#### **Motion 5:**

**That all Financial Reporting for the World Convention of Narcotics Anonymous be provided in a detailed line item format and not in a summary as is currently available. This report will be posted on na.org and be downloadable.**

**Intent:** Financial Transparency

**Maker:** Show Me Region

**Financial Impact:** The projected expense is difficult to forecast without a clear idea of what is being requested. To put together a line-by-line report that provides meaningful information would require a great deal of staff time.

**Rationale by Region:** None

**World Board:** We report all NA World Services income and expenses against the budget adopted at the World Service Conference; World Convention income and expense is no different. If this motion is supported, the WSC would need to provide us with clearer parameters of what sort of reporting is desired. We were unable to get clarity from the motion maker about what type of information is being sought, other than “a detailed line item format.”

The World Convention is a relatively small part of World Services’ budget. For this budget cycle, 2014–2016, the World Convention is budgeted at income and expense of less than a million dollars in a budget with an operating income of over \$16 million.

Listing all of the detail for a World Convention would not provide particularly useful information. As an example, the audiovisual costs for the event are usually paid in several large payments. Listing the payments would not tell you whether the cost was for meetings, special events, translations, NAWS onsite, or any of the other places we might use AV in a convention. To annotate and explain the hundreds and hundreds of invoices so that they are understandable does not seem to be a particularly prudent use of finite staff resources.

We do believe we need to discuss the future of the World Convention, but do not see this as a beneficial way to focus that conversation.

**Motion 6:**

**That all face to face World Board meetings be open to any NA member on a space available basis; unless the topic(s) being discussed are required by law to be confidential.**

**Intent:** To return the WB to the common practice that other NA boards and committees follow.

**Maker:** San Diego Imperial Region

**Financial Impact:** If there is no change made to where and how the World Board meets, we do not expect a direct financial impact from this motion.

**Rationale by Region:** All service boards and committees in NA have always followed this practice, including world service boards and committees until the WB decided to close their meetings to WB members and staff only in the last few years.

We feel it is important that our WB reflect the common practice of the other service boards and committees in NA; not doing so sets them apart which some members view as thinking one is different or better than; not in the spirit of anonymity and in our opinion creates unnecessary mistrust of the WB.

We understand that the WB is a corporate board but feel that it is an NA service board first and then a corporate board when required to be by law, no different than any of our other service boards and committees. We appreciate the experience of our WB members and believe it would be beneficial to any member who gets the chance to sit in on one of their meetings.

**World Board:** The question of whether to open Board meetings to interested members was raised when we held a meeting in San Diego to meet the contractual obligations of a hotel associated with the World Convention. We decided not to open that meeting, and Board meetings in general, not to be elitist or secretive, but in the interest of parity and effectiveness. To allow observers at our meetings simply because they happened to be in close proximity to San Diego (or Chatsworth) seemed unfair to most of our members who are not nearby.

Even if there were an equitable way to open Board meetings, we still don't believe it is a good idea. We are not as effective when we must function in a 2016 *Conference Agenda Report* goldfish bowl. As we mention in response to Motion 4, the Board is always evolving issues. Attending a single Board meeting without context can actually give an incorrect impression of where our discussions are on a particular topic. Yet some members would most likely share and post discussions and remarks on social media without that context regardless. We used to have an open Board meeting during the World Service Conference week, but we discontinued that practice because we found that having discussions and making decisions in front of an audience inhibited our communication and made our discussions more self-conscious and less effective.

**Motion 7:**

**That if there continues to be a WSC Participants Discussion Board on NA.org that it be made accessible to non WSC participants; only for viewing, not posting.**

**Intent:** To allow any interested member to see what our WSC participants are discussing regarding fellowship and world service issues.

**Maker:** San Diego Imperial Region

**Financial Impact:** This would have minimal financial impact.

**Rationale by Region:** Our region feels this is another way for our members to get more information and different views on issues facing our world services and fellowship. We feel that the mistrust this discussion board being closed creates with some of our members is totally unnecessary and opening it up to viewing by the membership will alleviate those concerns.

**World Board:** Making the Conference participants' board viewable by Conference participants only was a decision of the WSC, not the World Board. The discussions at the Conference related to the issue were about participants having the freedom to talk through and develop ideas with other Conference participants before all of the details of those conversations became public; participants wanted to be able to brainstorm or have informal discussions without risking being labelled as "wrong." Most zonal and regional committee discussion boards and Facebook pages that we are aware of are limited to the members of that body.

The real issue seems to be how to make any online portal feel relevant, valuable, and safe from attack. Despite the Conference's decision to close the WSC participant board, posts are often reposted on social media without permission of the participants who wrote them. That may be part of the reason why only ten participants are responsible for over 70 percent of the posts on the board. Over 250 participants are eligible for posting to this board, yet only a few participate. We know there is a need for a forum where Conference participants can talk together, but we have yet to find an effective way to do that.

### **Motion 8:**

**To direct NAWS to produce a low-cost paperback English version of the Basic**

**Text which contains only the first ten chapters called "Our Program".**

**Intent:** To provide a cost effective means to carry our message and fulfill our primary purpose.

**Maker:** Oklahoma Region

**Financial Impact:** The only way that we know to represent the potential financial impact of this motion is to assume that all English Basic Text sales would become sales of "Our Program"—what we used to call "Book One"—and to show you what that would mean for one fiscal year. Communication with the region discussed a sales price of \$4.00 as well as possibly using "no more than 100 percent of the cost of production." We are using the higher figure, \$4.00, for this analysis.

Using the fiscal year ending June 2015, the potential impact of this motion would be that income from our Basic Text sales could be reduced by about 65 percent. We currently receive an average of \$10.16 per copy for the English Basic Text, after an overall average discount of 12 percent. If we received \$3.52 (a sales price of \$4.00 less our average discount), that would mean a reduction of \$1,600,801 in gross income—from \$2,448,908 in 2015 for hardcover and softcover non-translated texts to \$848,107. The production cost of the hardcover English Basic Text is just under \$2.00, and a softcover

“Our Program” version in English would be about \$0.80. For the approximately 240,939 texts sold in 2015, the cost of goods would have been reduced by about \$289,127, which would result in a net income reduction of \$1,311,674 per year.

**Rationale by Region:** The OK Region feels that creating a version of our Basic Text that can be inexpensively distributed to addicts newly exposed to Narcotics Anonymous is crucial to our primary purpose. We believe strongly that if we can get more of this literature into the hands of addicts, they will have a chance to identify and find a new way to live. Our initial motion had specifics about the pricing of this book. While we are hoping that the price of this book would not exceed more than 100% of total cost of production, we understand the language of the motion needs to be less specific. Our more general wording reflects our trust in the process and the faith that the intent of our motion will be upheld. The OK Region believes the passing of this motion would further enhance our ability to offer “Our Program” to more addicts seeking recovery.

**World Board:** It is no secret that NA World Services funds fellowship development efforts of all types—including workshops and face-to-face interactions, thousands of calls, mailings, and emails; translations of NA literature; a variety of public relations efforts around the world; and even the five NA World Service locations throughout the world, the WSC, the World Board, and its workgroups—largely through the funds from sales of the Basic Text.

It would be impossible to encapsulate the work of World Services in the course of a year in the small space we have here. The *NAWS Annual Report* is the closest thing we have, and last year’s was 60 pages plus 40 pages of financial reports. We encourage you to take a look at it online and, in addition, if you have not already done so, to read the *Pricing of NA Literature* section on page 31 of this report. Every year we distribute hundreds of group starter kits, and send literature to thousands and thousands of incarcerated addicts.

We have made substantial progress over the years in our relationships with professionals; as a result of our efforts, more and more professionals who come into contact with addicts see abstinence as a viable option for recovery from addiction. We were able to bring an NA meeting to over 20,000 incarcerated addicts because of our relationships with various correction agencies. The list goes on and on. All of these services are motivated by our primary purpose and could not happen without resources.

During the last fiscal year, the cost of free or subsidized literature was well over a half million dollars. Sales of the Basic Text make all of those services possible, and we believe the text remains affordable at \$11.55. The conscience of the Fellowship has seemed to bear this out. The motion to produce a lower-cost Basic Text has been before the WSC at least nine times and has never passed.

The *Introductory Guide to NA* is an inexpensive alternative that contains the basics of the NA program, including Chapter Four, “How It Works,” of the Basic Text. Many of us got clean and were thriving in NA before the Basic Text was published. We read the Little White Book, which is another, more inexpensive piece of literature that can introduce addicts to what NA has to offer. More prolific use of the Little White Book or the *Intro Guide* would be an effective way to carry the message without undermining a primary source of World Services’ income.

## **Motion 9:**

**To direct the World Board to post a PDF version of all approved English and translated Basic Texts on na.org for free download.**

**Intent:** To provide no cost access to our main piece of recovery literature.

**Maker:** Western Russia Region

**Financial Impact:** Were this motion to pass, it's impossible to estimate the actual financial impact. If you take the figure cited in the rationale, a 20 percent reduction in current sales of the Basic Text would be a net reduction in NA World Services income of over \$2,000,000 per year from gross sales, less cost of goods and average discount.

**Rationale by Region:** We consider that free of charge distribution of Fellowship's central piece of recovery literature is inherently spiritual and itself, is embodiment of our primary purpose—to carry the message about miracles of recovery to a still suffering addict.

We assume that volume of sales of printed BT will drop for about 20% for the first 5 years. Later on it will probably be continuing to go down as there is a strong global tendency to use electronic devices for reading. We also believe that eventually this will enlarge the percent of direct 7th Tradition in NA World Services income.

**World Board:** Making the Basic Text accessible through free download would both endanger our copyright and undermine our ability to provide services. For several years, we did post PDFs of our books online to make them accessible to anyone who was interested, but we found that electronic copies of the texts proliferated to the degree that we feared for our ability to maintain our copyright. The Basic Text was posted in PDF format on na.org from 2008 until 2011. When the issue was presented to WSC 2012, it was reported that the Basic Text had been downloaded 3,850,000 times, with a proliferation of distribution by conventions and other entities.

In the past, people downloaded our texts not just to read but to sell, to turn into apps, and to mass distribute by email. Copyright law requires the active protection of intellectual property, and we believe if we were to post the Basic Text online, we would run the risk of losing our copyright and no longer being able to protect the integrity of our literature.

Further, as we mention above, NA World Services funds the World Service Conference and its projects, as well as public relations and fellowship development efforts on behalf of NA worldwide through the sale of literature— including making discounted and free literature available to NA communities that need it. For the past fiscal year ending June 2015, the cost of the literature we gave away and/or heavily subsidized was \$539,519. The reduction in income included in the rationale from the region would amount to over \$2,000,000 annually. This far exceeds the cost of free literature, the WSC, its projects, and the World Board. A reduction of this magnitude would require nothing less than rethinking the focus of NA World Services.

Russia is a great example of what can happen with support and resources provided by funds from literature. NA World Services has funded the translation and production of Russian literature, organized and funded numerous Russian-speaking workshops until they were able to do this themselves, and provided free literature to this community for over ten years. When we started they were one region that needed assistance, and today they are five regions, a zone, and a resource for fellowship development efforts for numerous Russian-speaking meetings and communities. We have recently started producing literature in Russia that the zone is helping to distribute, and the Fellowship there is paying for literature. We have yet to recover our costs from literature sales in Russia, but our primary objective was consistent, stable availability and distribution of literature. Because of their efforts, as well as ours, we have been able to meet that objective.

### **Motion 10:**

**To hold every other WSC outside of the US and to begin this rotation with WSC 2020 to be held in Moscow, Russia.**

**Intent:** To launch rotation of the location of the WSC in order to provide local fellowships around the world new opportunities for growth and development.

**Maker:** Western Russia Region

**Financial Impact:** For WSC 2014, NA World Services funded 140 people to the World Service Conference (delegates, Board members, WSC Co facilitator, HRP members, and translators). Eighty-three of those 140 were from the US and Canada. A conservative estimate of the increase in costs due to staff travel, visas, and increases in airfare is over \$145,000. We are unable to estimate the added expense in administration of the WSC and pre-Conference planning activity were it to move to another location.

**Rationale by Region:** Our fellowship experience shows that large service events have a great beneficial effect to the hosting regions and areas - they inspire both, receiving party and guests participants, giving a great impact for growth. For example, the next 2016 Russian Zonal Forum meeting will take place at the very eastern point of Russia, in the city of Vladivostok, which is 9000 km (5589 miles) away from Moscow. In spite of the distance, we are sure that will help us to get closer and to grow as a fellowship.

**World Board:** We agree that exposure to service and recovery events is beneficial to most NA communities. However, it would take a great deal of human and financial resources to make this happen, and the benefit would be to a single NA community. Holding the WSC outside the US would add hundreds of thousands of dollars in expense and drastically increase the administrative time and support needed to plan the Conference.

The World Service Conference rotated outside of Southern California every other Conference three times—to Dallas, Texas, in 1992; to Atlanta, Georgia, in 1994; and to Greensboro, North Carolina, in 1996 (the Conference met 2016 *Conference Agenda Report* annually until 2000). The expense of moving more than 20 staff, the parliamentarian, the equipment, and so on did not seem worth whatever benefit, if any, was realized from the alternative locations. This practice was discontinued and the policy was adopted to hold the event typically within 75 miles of the WSO.

For many delegates, the week of the Conference is the only time they ever visit the World Service Office. Holding the Conference close to the office makes sense from a logistical standpoint. For instance, it makes it possible for us to utilize office equipment such as task chairs and computers, reducing the cost of rental equipment, and it makes the use of hourly staff for tasks much easier. A huge infrastructure is needed for the WSC, and having the Conference in a consistent place makes the event significantly easier to plan and smoother to execute.

While the cost to move the Conference seems to outweigh the benefit, there must be other ways that we can bring the excitement and inspiration of service in our worldwide Fellowship to different communities. We have a similar concern about the future of the World Convention and the expense when it is held outside the US versus the benefit to a single local community.

We may need to all work together to come up with new ideas, or resurrect old ideas like the worldwide workshops, in order to provide FD opportunities to more places. We certainly understand the need and the desire for exposure to the broader world of NA service. We would just like to develop some ways to meet this need that do not affect the cost and functioning of the Conference.

**Motion 11:**

To allow a delegate from any Zonal Forum who requests it to be seated at the WSC as a non-voting participant. The expense of attendance will be the responsibility of the Zonal Forum and not the WSC.

**Intent:** To involve zones at the WSC.

**Maker:** Western Russia Region

**Financial Impact:** The financial impact of expanding or moving the Conference would depend on too many factors to effectively estimate at this time.

**Rationale by Region:** We think that is an essential step forward towards inevitable integration of zones into the actual service structure due to their increasing role.

**World Board:** While we do have huge concerns about the future and how to address the size of the Conference moving forward, this seems to be a welcome step in a new direction. “If nothing changes, nothing changes,” the expression goes, and we appreciate the attempt to be forward-thinking and to innovate. We recommend trying this once to see how it goes for 2018. If this were passed as a motion, it would become standing policy in *GWSNA*. We think a safer approach would be to try it first and see if participants feel the change is beneficial and something that they would like to see on an ongoing basis.

The spirit of the motion seems to be in concert with the direction the Conference discussed going in at WSC 2014. Of course, adding zonal delegates to the participants already seated at the Conference can't be a helpful long-term solution to our challenges as a Conference. Adding to our numbers will not address our sustainability and effectiveness issues. However, if we continue to discuss zonal seating, it seems logical to have representatives from zones at the Conference taking part in that discussion.

We understand that this motion comes from a zone with one seated region and four unseated regions and that this is an alternative to all of their regions requesting seating.

If the Conference wants to adopt this motion or try this idea, we would offer two changes:

1. A one-time trial for WSC 2018
2. A clear, shared understanding of what “zone” means for the sake of recognizing a delegate from each zone. This could mean one person selected by each of the 15 zones that exist today: African Zonal Forum, Asia Pacific Forum, Autonomy Zone, Brazil Zone, Canadian Assembly, European Delegates Meeting, Latin American Zonal Forum, Midwest Zonal Forum, Northeast Zonal Forum, Plains States Zonal Forum, Rocky Mountain Zonal Forum, Russian Zonal Forum, Southeast Zonal Forum, Southern Zonal Forum, and Western States Zonal Forum.

Were this idea to become policy, there are many complicated issues related to zonal delegation that we hope would be clarified at WSC 2018, not least of which would be a shared understanding of how a zonal seating process might work,

**Motion 12:**

That Narcotics Anonymous World Services add the following "What is NA Service" card as part of the Group Readings offered by the World Service Office.

**What is NA Service?**

This is a very important integrant of our recovery, this is how our gratitude speaks, yet this is a way to carry the message of recovery to those addicts who still suffer. We usually begin being of service in NA making coffee/tea or cleaning our rooms after meetings. As we get some experience serving at the group level, many of us try ourselves out at a different point of service structure,

for instance, - area or region.

Being of service in NA is for any of us. True service can be expressed by simple words quoted from the Basic Text: «True service is "doing the right things for the right reasons"» .

Being of service at a group level helps to strengthen the very foundation of our recovery because it could probably be the first time when we something for others without seeking to profit, expecting nothing in return. Serving at a group is another motive that helps us to attend meetings regularly. And our experience tells us that those who keep coming back regularly stay clean.

Being of service in NA is our gratitude to the Fellowship of Narcotics Anonymous for a new clean life. Many of us always wanted to be "a part of something". Service in NA indeed gives us a chance to become a part of a fellowship that saves our lives and helps addicts all over the world to stay clean and follow the way of recovery.

**Intent:** To provide NA groups with an approved piece of literature to use as a tool to foster a culture of getting involved into service.

**Maker:** Western Russia Region

**Financial Impact:** There would be minimal production costs to add a new meeting reading card to our inventory.

**Rationale by Region:** Service is a foundation stone of recovery. This is simply why we think it is important to take the point further at the very beginning of a meeting.

**World Board:** All of the reading cards produced by NA World Services come directly from Fellowship-approved literature. We are not necessarily opposed to adding readings, but if the Conference were to elect to do so, we believe the material should undergo review, input, and ultimately Fellowship approval. We believe that is in the best interests of Fellowship unity.

Groups are welcome to create whatever format works best for them. *The Group Booklet* explains that groups should "feel free to innovate. Vary the format in whatever way seems to best suit the 'personality'

of your group and the needs of addicts in your community.” Ideas such as those expressed above could be included in any group’s format without the creation of a new reading card, or the group might want to consider reading *A Vision for NA Service* before their meetings.

### **Motion 13:**

**Each World Board member votes only in Elections and may make motions in all sessions. The World Board has one collective vote (made by the Chairperson of the World Board) in new business sessions.**

**Intent:** This motion would change World Board voting in new business from (up to) 18 individual votes to one collective vote.

**Maker(s):** South Florida, Michigan, and Mid-Atlantic Regions

**Financial Impact:** We do not see a direct financial impact from this motion. It would require a change in how the World Board schedules its time at the WSC.

**Rationale by Region(s):** Our rationale for this motion is that this will make new business outcomes more dependent on regional perspective and less reflective of the board’s perspective. This motion is no more than what was originally recommended by the Resolution Group when it discussed the creation of the World Board and other structural resolutions in 1996 (see page 56 of the October 1995 Resolution Group Report to the WSC). If adopted, this motion would negate the possibility of what took place at the 2014 WSC when a motion to seat three Regions from Brazil had 80 out of 106 Regional Delegates voting in favor, but failed for a lack of 2/3 only because the World Board had a block of 18 who voted against the motion.

The Seventh Concept states that, “All members of a service body bear substantial responsibility for that body’s decisions and should be allowed to fully participate in its decision-making processes.” We have Alternate Delegates who are a part of the body yet are not allowed to fully participate in its decision-making processes, if full participation is intended to mean the right to vote. Current conference guidelines do not allow World Board members to vote in old business. Therefore, we feel the Seventh Concept should not be used as an argument against limiting the World Board to one collective vote in new business. Retaining a single vote for the World Board will keep intact the leadership that the board and the fellowship desire while balancing out the weight and representation each vote at the WSC carries.

**World Board:** As the rationale for the motion states, Board members bring a unique perspective to matters affecting NA as a whole. We do not believe it serves the Conference or the Fellowship to limit their participation. Being on the Board means continual, intense focus on the needs of NA worldwide. Board members spend hundreds or even thousands of hours during a Conference cycle overseeing projects, traveling to service bodies around the world, and talking to delegates and other members about their concerns and issues.

Board members come from a place of global consciousness and strategic thinking, but those experiences affect each of them differently. They do not, as a matter of regular practice, vote in a bloc, nor did they do so during the vote referenced in the rationale—though, given the lack of a roll-call vote on the motion in question, there is no record of how each participant voted.

Board members do not vote at all during old business, which is when items in the *Conference Agenda Report* are decided. The Board does vote, however, in new business and election sessions at the WSC. Allowing each participant—delegates and Board members alike—an equal part in decision making during these sessions is in line with our Seventh Concept: “All members of a service body bear substantial responsibility for that body’s decisions and should be allowed to fully participate in its

decision-making processes.” World Board members are elected by the Conference and should fully participate in discussing and voting on new ideas during the Conference week.

**Motion 14:**

**That the World Board or members of the World Board no longer make motions or proposals for decision at the WSC. The World Board may still forward ideas or work that regional delegates may present as a motion or proposal to the WSC for a decision.**

**Intent:** To remove the ability of the World Board and World Board Members to make motions or proposals in old business or new business at the WSC.

**Maker:** Mid-Atlantic Region

**Financial Impact:** The potential financial impact of this motion is not possible to calculate.

**Rationale by Region:** To remove the governing ability of the World Board which is in direct conflict with Concept 12.

Aside from the budget, the duties and responsibilities listed in *A Guide to World Service* do not require the World board to make motions. As a result of WB motions in the CAT in 2008 concerning the SSP, the fellowship has wasted many hours and much money on a service system that the fellowship did not ask for or want as their service structure. All this time and money has resulted in very few areas and regions actually using the proposed service system.

The budget, new literature, project plans, etc., can be prepared by the world board, as is their responsibility, and placed in the CAR or CAT as their work. Any RD can motion to pass these items on the floor of the WSC. Members wishing to make motions, present proposals, or anything else as such have a procedure we must follow from home group through areas and regions. To allow the world board to present actionable items without following protocol allows the service structure we have created to be sidestepped. The board will still have the ability to fully participate in all aspects of the WSC as any other member of the fellowship.

**World Board:** If this motion were to pass, we have no idea how the Board would even function or how we would offer work to the Fellowship. Making motions is not governing; making a motion or proposal is framing a question for the Fellowship and Conference to decide. We have, in fact, been asked in the past to write motions or proposals for material we present in the CAT in order to make it easier for delegates to understand the material and discuss it with their regions. We do not tell the WSC what to do; we execute the decisions the World Service Conference makes, and we trust the process. We believe the Conference will make decisions that benefit NA as a whole.

Presenting a draft of a Traditions workbook in this CAR is, in fact, making a proposal for decision at the WSC. So is framing a budget or project plans for Conference decision, or most of what we offer. Regardless of who is listed as the presenter, creating the work and forwarding it to the Fellowship is presenting a proposal for decision. To make a motion about the work is simply clearly framing the issue to be decided by group conscience.

## **DISCUSSION TOPICS AT WSC 2016**

### **The Future of the WSC**

- ➔ This is an ongoing discussion regarding how to format the WSC to make it more cost effective for the fellowship as a whole and more efficient and able to serve the world wide NA community.
- ➔ The discussion from the last WSC seemed to suggest that many regional delegates around the world favored potentially moving WSC seating (those delegates who attend the conference) towards a more zonal approach
  - In a nutshell, if this is how the fellowship decides to move toward in the future (it is NOT an established thing that WILL happen at this time, but does seem to be the way that the fellowship is moving towards) that means that instead of each region having a delegate and/or alternate delegate present and voting at each WSC, new zones (NOT the same as the zonal forums that are already established) would be made geographically and representatives from each zone would be present and voting at the WSC in the future.
  - Again, these zones are not yet established, this is a hypothetical solution to the problem of having so many people at the WSC that discussion is difficult, time consuming, and costly to the fellowship, but it is not yet the established way that is *going* to happen. However, it is very likely that this is the way the fellowship is proceeding.

**The two conversations taking place are:** 1) The role of zones in relation to the member's community; 2) The future of the WSC as an effective and sustainable body.

### **Our Service System**

- ➔ The general consensus of the last WSC regarding adding the level of multi zonal forums (NOT the same as zonal seating discussed above, but the established multi zonal forum such as the MZF which the Wisconsin Region is a part of, however at this time we are not active participants of) to the Guide to Local Services booklet.
- ➔ It was established that the Guide to Local Services would need to be revised to include this ONLY as another option for groups/areas/regions to use if they so choose.
- ➔ NAWS does not believe they have enough fellowship input to revise the Guide to Local Services just yet, and the conversations that will be had at the WSC will include feedback from areas and .regions that currently use elements of the Service System Project including group support forums, what the fellowship needs and best practices in regards to rural service systems, etc.
- ➔ Basically, they will be discussing what works, what doesn't, and what revisions should be made to the Guide to Local Services and things of the nature.

### **NA Literature and Our Primary Purpose**

- ➔ This discussion is specifically addressing the rise in illegal NA literature production. IE: there is a lot of printed NA literature occurring outside the legal entity of NAWS which has the copy write to this material.
- ➔ NAWS reports this to be an issue as the sales of illicit NA literature diverts funds from World Services; funds which are used to further develop NA communities worldwide.

- ➔ They state that they are not taking legal action against the people responsible for printing illicit literature as they believe the funds and time spent on a legal action is better suited in other endeavors to carry the message of Narcotics Anonymous worldwide, however urge NA members on an individual level to continue to support NAWS by not perpetuating the distribution of these materials.
- ➔ Basic information being discussed is the way in which literature is priced and distributed, and the ways in which funds collected from literature sales are used throughout the world

## **LITERATURE POLL**

- ➔ This poll is designed to find a worldwide conscience on which type of NA literature the fellowship believes NAWS should work on next. IT is important to keep in mind that literature drafting is a long and tedious process, so when deciding which literature you believe is the next most important document to be drafted that these documents will likely be made available as approval drafts in four to ten years depending on which style of literature the fellowship decides on.
- ➔ Please decide which two pieces of literature from each category (separated by length of literature and literature type) are the top two priorities.

### ***Book-Length Recovery Material***

*\*please indicate which two of the following list is priority\**

- New book about sponsorship
- New step-writing guide (not to replace, but as a possible companion piece to the current *Step Working Guides*)
- Daily meditation book featuring a spiritual principle a day
- Daily meditation book based on *Living Clean*
- Service and recovery
- Revise current *Step Working Guides*
- Revise current *Sponsorship* book
- Collection of stories from early members in NA communities around the world
- History of NA
- Miracles continue to happen – pictures and stories about the growth of
- NA around the world
- Other (please specify)

### ***Booklet- or Pamphlet-Length Recovery Material***

*\*Please indicate which two of the following IP/Booklet topics you believe are priority\**

- Application of the Concepts
- Service and recovery
- Indigenous people in recovery
- Older members in recovery
- Revise the current *Sponsorship* IP
- Create a new sponsorship booklet
- Women in recovery
- LGBT members in recovery
- What is Twelfth Step work? with how-to suggestions
- Quick responses to ten frequent reasons people may resist NA (focused to new or potential members)
- Our Eleventh Step in action
- Practicing these principles in all our affairs
- Carrying a clear NA message

- Mental health
- Revisions to *The Loner*
- Revise *PI and the NA Member*
- Revise *H&I and the NA Member*
- Other (please specify)

### ***Service Material***

*\*Please indicate which two service material pieces you believe would be priority\**

- Revise *A Guide to Local Services*
- Revise *H&I Handbook*
- Sponsorship behind the walls
- Events and conventions handbook (new – there is nothing in inventory)
- Group service tools/toolbox (e.g., sample group formats, group support forum basics...)
- Local/Area service tools/toolbox (e.g., GSR orientation, planning assembly tools, trusted servant training tools, project forms...)
- Regional service tools/toolbox (e.g., trusted servant training tools, regional assembly tools, project forms...)
- Role of regional delegates
- A guide for interactions with drug courts
- Information for creating legal entities and service offices and their relationships with the service body they serve
- Treasurers basics
- Facilitation basics
- CBDM basics
- Service and technology
- Revise *Planning Basics*
- FD/PR tools
- Other (please specify)

### ***Ideas for Upcoming Fellowship Issue Discussions***

*\*Fellowship issue discussions are topics of discussion at the WSC. These discussions in the past have provided valuable insight and sparked the process of drafting various literature pieces such as the Disruptive and Violent Behavior pamphlet, Money Matters, etc. Please indicate which two topics you believe are priority for discussion at this WSC\**

- How to use “Guiding Principles: The Spirit of Our Traditions” with a session for each Tradition and the ability to choose which to discuss
- The First Tradition and NA unity
- How can we continue to provide services to our Fellowship and at the same time decrease our reliance on funds from literature, events, and conventions?
- Fellowship development
- NA unity, the *FIPT*, and reprinting NA literature

- Service in NA
- Atmosphere of recovery in service and how we treat each other
- Retaining members
- Who is missing from inner city/urban meetings?
- Outreach/Rural recovery
- The Conference cycle and staying engaged and involved
- Disruptive and Violent Behavior* (putting the service pamphlet through the recovery IP process)
- Applying our principles to technology and social media
- Other (please specify)