

To: The Fellowship

From: Bob Rehmar, Chairperson  
Board of Trustees

The Trustees have worked hard this past year to become more organized and effective. An important aspect of this strengthening has been a practical committee system. The system of trustee committees described in the *Temporary Working Guide To Our Service Structure* has been implemented to the extent that it was possible with restrictions imposed because of lack of sufficient funds and too few members. The trustees, working through an active committee system, can add measurably to the growth of N.A. However, an effective trustee committee system will require a stronger commitment from the fellowship. Some of the work accomplished this year will address these problems.

The Board was assigned by the Conference in 1988 the task of addressing the matter of special interest meetings at the World Convention and including the response in this Agenda Report. After considerable study and discussion, the Board adopted a short statement in response to that assignment. However, the response does not appear to require a motion, so the statement is provided here as an opinion of the Board rather than a motion from the Board.

The issue arose during the discussion of a motion to amend the Convention Guidelines language concerning special interest meetings. The Conference adopted the changes proposed in that Guideline, but felt additional study would help. The statement from the Board of Trustees is relatively simple: "In our opinion at this time there is nothing in our principles or traditions which precludes the possibility of including special interest meetings (for lack of a better term) in a convention agenda. However, with respect to the World Convention, the World Convention Corporation establishes the program for the World Convention and they may or may not choose to include special interest meetings."

The Board currently has eleven members and all are actively engaged in work on matters assigned to the Board or within the scope of the Board's responsibilities. Unfortunately there is more work than there are trustees available to accomplish the work. To be fully effective, the Conference should endeavor to fill more trustee positions and increase funding so all trustees can be fully utilized. With this in mind, the Board decided to recommend a process through which the Board would move toward the full membership authorized by the Temporary Working Guide to the Service Structure. It is the recommendation therefore that the Conference adopt the following proposal to bring the Board of Trustees up to a full authorized strength during the next three years:

**#34: It is moved that: "At the 1989 WSC, the Conference elect only three members to the Board of Trustees for five year terms, elect not more than one member to the Board of Trustees for a one year term and elect not more than two members to the Board of Trustees for a two year term.  
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**At the 1991 WSC and all subsequent meetings of the Conference, the Conference elect only three members to serve for five year terms and fill vacancies in other positions as necessary, but in no event, more than two additional Trustees in a specific year. During the transition years, additional vacancies that result from reasons other than normal rotation will be filled for the specific period of time of the vacancy, rather than for a five year term automatically."**

Intent: To bring the Board up to full strength, and to ensure continuity of service experience by staggering the elections to fill vacancies. To avoid having more than three Trustees elected for five year terms during any single Conference and filling only some of the shorter year terms each year until a full complement is achieved.

The trustees have been close observers and participants in the activities of the Ad Hoc Committee created by the Conference in 1987 to address the matter of members with Additional Needs. During this time it has become obvious to the Board as a whole, that a responsibility of the Board should be to monitor the numerous Additional Needs matters and advise service boards and committees concerning these issues. Accomplishment of this responsibility can be achieved through full implementation of the Trustee Committee System described in the *Temporary Working Guide to Our Service Structure*.

Although acceptance by the Board of this responsibility does not require a motion approved by the Conference, the Board chose to propose a motion on the subject as a means of clarifying the issues and showing where within the trustee committee system the work will be accomplished. Accordingly, the Board of Trustees recommends that the fellowship adopt this motion:

**#35: That the Board of Trustees incorporate into the purpose and function of the Internal/External Affairs Committee of the Board the "Additional Needs" and similar special needs of N.A. The Board Internal/External Affairs Committee will use non-trustee members with expertise in "Additional Needs" experience, strength and hope as resource to issues that arise.**

Intent: To clarify the assignment within the activities of the Board of Trustee committee system described in the *Temporary Working Guide To Our Service Structure* where Additional Needs and similar special needs of N.A. members will be accomplished.