

**Trustee Literature Review Committee**  
**Friday June 14, 1991**

2:00 to 8:00pm

**Attendance:** Jack Bernstein, Bob McKendrick, Steve Bice, Greg Pierce, and Danette Banyai

**Items discussed:**

1. Election of committee chairperson - It was discussed and agreed upon by the committee members that Bob Mc. appeared to be the most logical choice for this position, particularly since he has been with the Traditions Ad Hoc Committee. Bob had no objections and asked a few questions of Jack about the responsibilities. Duties noted were: chairing the meetings for this committee, preparing the agenda and reports, reporting on the progress of the Traditions work, improved communication with the WSCLC. It was decided that a renewed effort to communicate and support the WSCLC would take place and that Mary J. would be that point of communication regarding both the WSCLC and the Steps Ad Hoc Committee.

2. Traditions Ad Hoc Committee meeting schedule - there was lengthy and lively discussion about the schedule and possible conflicts with the proposed work due to financial and staffing constraints. The committee adamantly opposes any consideration of a slowdown in their work to give preference to projects with less of a priority and feel that the option to use a contract employee for the remainder of their work would be risky at best, and advise against it. This has been tried before with the white book and it didn't work then. There were questions about the appropriateness of the WSO making arrangements for contract employees outside the physical location of the WSO, particularly in light of the move toward more joint/unified decision making between the boards. (i.e. finances, priority setting, Interim Committee etc.) It was noted that there doesn't seem to be clarity about the WSO's role in a decision/policy making process versus maintaining operational management. The members hope that this matter will be discussed by both boards, ask the WSB to examine it. There was also discussion about the meeting dates themselves and a preliminary review of meeting dates that members could attend was noted. The meeting schedule will be sent out to the remainder of the ad hoc committee for their consideration as well. Bob Mc was elected to chair the ad hoc committee.

3. Motion referred from WSC regarding the use of the word God and gender specific language in our literature - the committee determined that these are two separate issues and Greg was asked to draft a paper regarding these two items. Several points were made as input for Greg. One was that to change the word God in our steps and traditions would clearly change the nature of the them and wouldn't necessarily make any difference to the gender specific language. It was also noted

that the narrative used to describe and explain the steps and traditions could use alternate wording. To change the steps and traditions would require a lengthy decision process by the groups and members, and the committee was unanimously opposed to changing the steps and traditions. Gender specific wording has been addressed before and any works currently in progress are being developed with that issue in mind. Literature that would be considered for revisions would be examined for ways to reduce gender specific items as well.

4. Hebrew Basic Text (Dr. Holder's version) - Jack gave a brief summary of this situation; how Dr. Holder claimed to have produced a Hebrew translation of the Basic Text, its remarkable similarity to the Tel Aviv group's work, the lack of supporting evidence for his claims and efforts made to resolve the matter. It appears that Dr. Holder was paid some sum of money for this work, and that the WSO obtained a signed release from him. There was a brief discussion about the appropriateness of the action taken, from a legal standpoint and the principles of our fellowship. (power, property and prestige, N.A.'s rights) No one felt that any recognition should be given to Dr. Holder.

5. Review of drafts of Steps 1, 2, and 3 - the committee decided that since they still had some time left they would begin a review of the drafts sent out in April. The review was done in the usual manner of flow reading the draft with comments afterwards. Each member had a copy of the questionnaire included for each step. The committee will ask the full board whether or not they would like the Lit. Review Committee's input sent to the WSCLC on behalf of the board.