

**INTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
CONFERENCE CALL THIRD DRAFT MINUTES
DECEMBER 4, 1991**

Present: Jack B., Becky M., Stu T., Chuck L., Jamie S-H., Mitch S., Tim B., Barbara J.

WSO Staff: George H., Joe Gossett, Hollie A.

The call began at 6:00 PM. The first item on the agenda was the dual membership procedures which had been developed by both Tim B. and Stu T. Considerable discussion ensued on the qualifications for nominees, and whether they should already be a member of the WSB or BOD. There was general consensus that the nominees need to have several years of previous world service experience, whether as a board member or conference participant (RSR, committee chair, administrative committee member). There was some concern expressed that these procedures create a new position on the world level. There was also concern that by using the procedures, as drafted, both the WSB and BOD could be locked into having someone in these positions. The final decision was to include a request in the CAR report prior to the "WSB Operational Policies and Guidelines" indicating that the WSB and BOD intend to appoint two members to these positions, try it for one year, report on the outcome of the positions, and propose procedures for these positions if the concept seems to be working out.

Discussion then turned to the "Operational Policies and Guidelines" and the input which was received from Tom R., WSC Treasurer. The input made several suggestions on wording to maintain consistency throughout the document. The input also made reference to "leaders" of the WSB, and some conflict between the policies and the internal guidelines concerning removal of trustees from office. After a short discussion, Stu was given the assignment to revise the document to clear up these discrepancies. The revised document will then be reviewed by Becky and Jack. As long as there are not philosophical changes, the document will be included in the CAR as revised. It may be necessary to have the document sent to the full board for review and approval by conference call if the changes are more than grammatical and clarifying.

Becky indicated that papers which will support a panel presentation need to be approved for inclusion in the January Conference Report. The draft position paper on the relationship of the WSB to WSC committees was next discussed. Several minor wording changes were suggested and will be inputted to the document. George was unclear about the purpose of the paper since it only describes the past and present relationship without making any recommendations. He was advised it is only a progress report and is not intended to set a direction or propose a decision. A decision was made to include this information if approved by the WSB as an addendum to the WSB report in the March Conference report.

Internal Affairs Committee, Conference Call Minutes
THIRD DRAFT
December 4, 1991, Page 2

Several wording changes and minor deletions were then made to the draft position paper on direct contributions and donations to a translations fund. Discussion then ensued on including material in this paper on "backwards" fund flow, as occurs when a region gives financial assistance to an area, or the area provides financial assistance to a group. The consensus was that another paper needs to be developed to discuss these issues. Several members expressed the need to increase the amount of communication and education within the fellowship to assist groups in making a determination of how and to whom they will pass on funds. The revised paper will be included in the January Conference Report as this will probably be a panel presentation topic at WSC. In addition, the issue of individual contributions was also seen as needing further discussion. There is a possibility that individual donations to WSC will probably be brought up as part of the discussions during the panel presentation period at WSC.

Jamie indicated he will have the introductory material for the zonal trustee position paper to the WSC by Monday, Dec. 9, so this paper can be edited and sent out to the board of review. Since this is not going to be a panel presentation topic it will be included in the March Conference Report.

Becky indicated she plans to have a WSB conference call after the articles are sent out for review. She related these articles will need 2/3 approval before release to the fellowship. The spending plan for 1992-93 will also need to be sent to the trustees for review and approval prior to including it in the CAR.

The draft position paper on "participation and decision making in NA" was then discussed. Several members felt it was too long and needed to be shortened. Most of the members felt it needed more work to tighten it up and some style and tone changes need to take place. Discussion then ensued on whether this will be an issue at WSC, with the general agreement that this issue is "alive and well" at WSC. The decision was made to spell out the issues in a discussion format rather than as a position paper for inclusion in the January Conference Report. Barbara J. suggested including a couple of RSRs with dissenting views on the panel presentation. She feels there are enough new RSRs that need this information as soon as possible for wide discussion in their regions, so that RSRs are not receiving new information on the floor of the WSC as occurred in 1988. George commented that he has not yet seen discussion on what the WSC is, why it occurs, how it works, etc. There was agreement that members would like to see this information included in the report on this issue.

Stu then informed everyone that a Protocol Draft has been developed by Bob McD. and that Bob has requested input from the Internal Affairs Committee. Becky indicated the Interim Committee was given the responsibility to draft the protocol; that Bob is not tied to anything and has asked for input from the Internal Affairs Committee members. Stu asked that these members submit individual input. This issue may need to be included on the February agenda.

Internal Affairs Committee, Conference Call Minutes
THIRD DRAFT
December 4, 1991, Page 3

Stu also is working on the motions which will be included in the CAR about the trust document and the WSB policies and guidelines. He will be developing the leaders, motions and intents. Becky informed him these will have to go out early next week for review prior to the WSB conference. She asked that Tim, Mitchell, and Barbara be included on the mailing of this item.

The call closed at 8:30 PM.

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