

**STEERING COMMITTEE
CONFERENCE CALL MINUTES
SECOND DRAFT
December 5, 1991**

Present: Becky M., Garth P., Kim J., Stu T., Bob McK.
WSO Staff: Joe Gossett, Hollie A., George H.

The call began at 6:00 PM. The first item discussed was whether Garth felt the Philippines should be included in the invitation to the MDF next year. He indicated he found the fellowship in Manila with some difficulty since the addresses and times for the meetings which he had gotten from WSO were incorrect. The local fellowship has already elected a delegate, and he thinks they have the best opportunity for growth in the Pacific Basin. He related that there are 400,000 addicts in Manila alone. The remainder of the trustees on the call were in agreement that an invitation will be sent to the Philippines.

Kim indicated her willingness to attend the January Traditions Ad Hoc Committee meeting. Bob McK. shared that the TAH will be asking the trustees to determine the review process for the approval version of the Traditions at their meeting in Montreal. He also informed the other trustees of the WSCLC's plans to ask for approval of the steps portion of the book at WSC 1993.

Kim stated she had gotten a call from the Mid-Atlantic RSR asking to have an MDF-type workshop at the Mid-Atlantic Learning Conference. Becky advised her the Interim Committee would have to approve the funding for this request first. Kim said that perhaps she and Garth could stay over on the East Coast and travel from their to the trustee meeting. Bob indicated he would ask them to write a letter and FAX a copy to the WSO.

Becky then informed the remainder of the Steering Committee that CAR motions must be approved by the full board of trustees before Dec. 23. She indicated that minor changes have been made to the WSB Policies and Guidelines. Also, Stu will be writing a request to ask the WSC to allow for dual membership between the WSB and BOD on a one year trial basis.

Becky advised everyone of the need to add the determining of names for nominees to the WSB to the agenda for the Feb. meeting. Annual Reports from each committee will also be added to the agenda so they will be ready for the *March Conference Report*. Also, Bob advised everyone of the WSCLC's plan to have a panel at the WSC on the use of contract writers, including members of the BOD of the panel. He asked that this topic be added to the agenda for discussion by the trustees prior to the WSC.

The draft of the WSB spending proposal for 1992/93 was next to be discussed. Funding will be requested for fixed items, such as four trustee

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meetings for 11 (minimum) to 17 (maximum) trustees, including two non-US members. Also included in the fixed budget is the Traditions Ad Hoc and their meetings this next year. It was determined that one entire day will be added to the June '93 meeting of the WSB to review Traditions 1-6, and then have an additional WSB meeting in later in the year to review the remainder of the traditions and Steps 1-12. There was general agreement that it is easier to ask for more and then decrease, than to not ask and need more. The fixed budget will include non-trustee members of committees for attendance at trustee meetings. Since the WSC Committee chairpersons of PI, H&I and Policy have previously been included as members of WSB committees, it was felt the WSCLC chairperson should be included as a member of Lit. Review. Bob requested that Mary J. be funded to the Feb. WSB meeting, but was informed the Interim Committee has declined to fund any of the WSC committee chairs to the meeting in Montreal. On inquiry, Kim requested that funds be included in the fixed budget for the Additional Needs Panel Members to attend up to three regional/multi-regional workshops. Additionally, Darwyn needs to be funded to attend at least one WSB meeting in Van Nuys, as well as the WSC. Kim also would like to see a "think tank" session occur on the east coast to allow for interaction between the trustees External Committee members, and to begin public relations work with members from the treatment community, corrections, medical field, etc. It was decided to include this as a line item in the discretionary budget, then determine how to structure the meeting if it is approved. Garth indicated he would like to the fixed budget to include funding for attendance by a trustee at three non-NA events. Under administrative expenses, Becky indicated she has included four conference calls per committee, along with funds for full board conference calls, mailings, etc. Funding will be requested to provide for attendance at the WSO BOD meetings by two trustees; either the WSB chair and vice-chair, or their designates. The JAC meeting in early 1993 will be left in the budget, in the event it occurs.

Discussion of the discretionary budget began with follow-up for the MDF such as translations of reports, or whether to have an MDF mid-year. Strong feelings were expressed that funding for worldwide development not be considered as "discretionary." After considerable discussion, Becky agreed to develop introductory language which would be included in the funding request from the trustees for conference year 92/93. This introductory section will outline the trustee's desire to allow them the flexibility to make internal decisions on allocating funds for such items as trustee travel to regional workshops, CAR workshops, etc. The draft spending request for discretionary funds will be based on trustee activity this past year, including travel to support local communities outside the US. This revised spending request will be sent to all the trustees in the overnight mailing next week.

Next to be discussed were recent changes in treatment philosophy, especially in the Southern hemisphere, away from the existing 12-step and disease concept philosophy. Garth both felt this could be added to the WSB agenda for discussion during the next year.

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A discussion of a possible "closed session" of the trustees with a trained facilitator was next. The goal of this session would be to assist the trustees in setting goals and priorities, long term planning, the leadership style within the board, and how to provide effective leadership to the fellowship. The decision was made to ask for funding for a facilitator to attend a regularly scheduled WSB meeting, not a closed meeting, particularly to help with long range planning.

Panel topics for WSC 1992 were next on the agenda. There will be two 2-hour sessions for the trustees; one focusing on CAR items, and the other on topics which will be included in the WSB section of the January *Conference Report*. Bob feels the Traditions Ad Hoc can, perhaps, combine their presentation time with the WSCLC since the approval process for *It Works: How and Why* will be their main topic. There was agreement that funding and conference voting will need to be panel topics. Papers discussing both these topics will need to be approved on a trustee conference call. These papers will be mailed out the trustees overnight on December 11, with a conference call to be scheduled on December 17 at 6:00 PM. The WSB will ask that the issue of common needs meetings be addressed during the WCC presentation time. Two other topics (prejudice and attracting addicts in ongoing recovery) were suggested but may be too late to include. If it is too late to include these topics on this year's agenda, they will be included in forum discussion during the next year. Kim and Bob will see if they can develop a short paper on prejudice which could be included in the mailing.

Becky reminded everyone the draft agenda they were FAXed is just a draft. Trustee nominees and committee annual reports will be added. These reports will need to be completed for inclusion in the March *Conference Report*.

George then advised the trustees of the six-month meeting of the European Service Conference which will be held in London on Jan. 31 - Feb. 2, 1992. He sees this as being an opportunity for the first CAR workshop outside the US, as well as an opportunity to get input on the MDF agenda and maybe meet with the Germans. There was strong agreement that a trustee needs to attend this meeting, especially if a visit is planned to the German Speaking Region. The Interim Committee will be asked to approve funds for trustee travel to the meeting in London with a follow-up to Germany. George will send all the information he has on this event to Becky to assist her in determining who should attend.

The call ended at 8:55 PM.