

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES MINUTES  
DRAFT ONE  
APRIL 25, 1992 & MAY 1, 1992**

**Sunday, April 25, 1992**

**Trustees Present:**

Becky Meyer, Chair  
Garth Pople, Vice Chair  
Greg Pierce  
Pete Cole  
Jamie Scott-Hopkins  
Kim Johnson  
Chuck Lehman  
Donna Markus  
Stu Tooredman  
Steve Bice  
Danette Banyai

**Trustees Absent:**

Bob McKendrick  
Jack Bernstein

**WSO Staff:**

Hollie Arnold

A closed session was held prior to the opening of the WSB meeting with several members of the WSO Board of Directors to discuss the lawsuit. This lawsuit asserts that the WSO is in contempt of the original order of January 1991. It attempts to enjoin world services from dealing with the Fellowship Literature Trust Document. Our attorneys contend there is nothing to prevent world services from pursuing motion #8 in the CAR as scheduled. The Interim Committee will be dealing with the attorney and will keep everyone updated.

Becky opened the meeting with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer at 7:00 PM.

Becky advised everyone that Jack B. will not be here this week as his significant other is expected to deliver their child "at any minute." Bob McK. will not be here as his mother-in-law has been hospitalized and is very ill. Kim J. will be here only for the first few days of the conference as her mother is very ill and in the hospital.

The first item of business was to discuss items to be included on the agenda for today's meeting. Two primary topics were identified for discussion: Motions referred to the WSB which have already been presented for discussion during the conference and development of a motion to amend the budget priority lists, if needed.

Becky then advised the trustees that the WSO Board has been in contact with their lawyer about the lawsuit. The main concern from members and RSRs relates to questions they have about language in the Literature Trust Document giving the WSO power "to encumber, mortgage or pledge." Our counsel has advised us that this is only standard language which is contained in any California trust document. She

recommends resolving this issue by adding an additional clause stating the WSO will never encumber, mortgage or pledge the copyrights, name or logo.

Discussion then turned to whether a motions to amend the conference budget is necessary. Rather than presenting nominees to the WSB, the WSB would like to have the funds available for full board funding, but would use the available excess funds to provide for attendance of committee members during WSB meetings.

The following language was developed to provide for this situation. "That the WSB be given authority to make line item adjustments to their budget to allow for participation by non-trustee committee members." Becky was given the latitude to discuss this request with Barbara Jorgensen and how to word the motion as an amendment to the budget priority lists. There was unanimous agreement by consensus.

Becky then shared her of the priority for the trustees over this next year. As has occurred over the past two years, multinational development will again be a priority. She would like to use a portion of the Friday WSB meeting to discuss how we want to continue with worldwide development over this next year.

Also, Darwyn L. (Additional Needs Panel member) is here and has brought the *NA White Book* translated into American Sign Language on video tape. Darwyn then informed the trustees that the interpreter and several deaf members will be here on Friday, and the ASL video tape will be shown at that time. He also shared that he is working with the University of East Carolina in Greenville, North Carolina to develop ASL video translations of the Basic Text. He would like to get the ASL interpreters from Lone Star and Carolina together to discuss conceptual issues. Also, he would like to make presentation at non-NA event in Denver, July 3 - 5, 1992 since the entire event is geared to addiction and recovery within the deaf community. Becky agreed to advise the conference of the ASL video, and will also have the event in Denver discussed in the PI panel. Darwyn then expressed his appreciation and support to the trustees for his attendance at the Additional Needs Awareness Workshop in Johnson City, TN and gave a short report about the positive aspects of the workshop. Kim expressed her appreciation to Darwyn and indicated she would like to see the External Affairs Committee give continuing support to these issues over next year. She indicated she would like to see Additional Needs become a priority of the trustees. Chuck then indicated that a request has been given to the World Convention Corporation regarding ASL interpretations during the World Convention, and the WCC is investigating both American Sign Language and International Sign. Darwyn related their have been requests from the deaf to have workshops signed instead of just main meetings. Questions were then asked of Darwyn about the Denver PI presentation about who needs to go and how can this be facilitated? He shared that either himself or a PI person could do the presentation, but they would need to take along an ASL interpreter. Becky then shared that the reason the non-NA events panel is being presented under the auspices of the WSC Admin. Committee is so that direction can be obtained from the World Service Conference on what events to do and what direction to go.

Kim then shared that she will be able to stay all week as her relatives medical status has improved. Bob McK.'s mother-in-law has passed away so he will not be attending the conference. He has been Federal Expressed all the information about the lawsuit.

Discussion then turned to assignments for the panel discussions during the conference. Since Kim is here, but Bob will not be attending, the previous assignments for the prejudice panel will be changed. It was agreed that the External Affairs Committee will make the final decision of who will be on this panel.

Steve Bice will be on the Traditions panel.

Becky will be on the Interim Committee panel.

Donna and Chuck will be on the Funding panel.

Chuck will be on the WSO/WCC Special Interest panel.

Danette and Stu will be on the panel discussing Tax Issues.

The Ad Hoc NA Service panel will include Becky.

Garth will be on the JAC Panel.

Donna will participate on the Translations panel.

Trustees participating on the Non-NA Events panel attendance will be determined by the External Affairs Committee.

The trustee panel on WSB Procedures and Guidelines will include Chuck, Jamie, Becky.

The panel on the Fellowship Intellectual Property Trust Document will include Becky, Stu, Tim B., and Bob McD.

The Prejudice panel will be comprised of Kim, Danette, Darwyn, Wallace (RSR-A, Freestate) and Lynn R. (RSR Australia)

The Participation and Decision making panel will include Pete, Stu, two RSRs, and Garth will moderate.

The trustees participating on the Policy Committee panel on National/Zonal representation will be Jamie and Chuck.

The Combined PI/H&I panel will be attended by either Kim or Pete.

Danette will be on the PI Video panel.

The next topic of discussion was to develop recommendations for the motions referred to the WSB. The following recommendations were agreed upon:

- #53 Withhold the Fellowship Intellectual Property Trust Document--REJECT 10/0/0 There was considerable discussion on the legal issues surrounding this document.
- #55 Fellowship reconsideration of decision of which edition of Basic Text shall be produced and distributed by WSO as the official and accepted text of NA--REJECT 9/0/2
- #56 That the WSCLC develop an IP on additional needs--COMMIT TO WSB 10/0/1
- #58 Delete Section 4,C from WSB Operational Guidelines regarding assistance in determining the direction of the WSO--REJECT 10/0/1

- #59 To amend by inserting in Section 3,C of WSB Guidelines an additional qualification stating "nomination by the WSC"--REJECT 10/1/0
- #60 Amend WSB Guidelines to allow for a maximum of 15 trustees--REJECT 8/0/3
- #65 RSR only vote--REJECT as previously discussed in Montreal
- #66 Non-voting members may make motions and/or address the WSC provided that motions are seconded by an RSR or duly elected alternate--REJECT as was previously discussed in Montreal
- #67 Delete 'Approve' and insert 'Review for one year prior to WSC '93 before voting to approve the Fellowship Intellectual Property Trust--REJECT as this was already discussed in motion #53
- #73 Election of WSB Chair and Vice Chair by the WSC--COMMIT TO WSB 11/0/0
- #76 Amend the trust document by striking word 'three-fourths of voting conference participants' and inserting 'two-thirds of voting conference participants' on page 29, Article VI, section 2, #6 of the Fellowship Intellectual Property Trust--ADOPT 9/0/2
- #82 Simplified Intellectual Property Trust Statement--REJECT 9/2/0
- #83 Funding assistance for regions worldwide to attend the WSC is needed and possible--COMMIT TO WSB 11/0/0
- #86 Resolution to define the roles of WSC Committees and WSB Committees--COMMIT TO WSB 10/1/0
- #87 Disband the Ad Hoc on NA Service and assign their responsibilities to WSB--REJECT 9/1/1
- #89 That all subcommittee chairs, WSC Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer, trustees, WSO BOD Chair and all non-RSRs withhold their vote during any regional motion concerning RSR only vote--There was concern that this motion may be ruled "out of order" by parliamentarian. If found to be in order, REJECT 11/0/0

Everyone was informed that Donna will not be at the conference after Wednesday, so will not be at WSB meeting on Friday.

Everyone said "Thanks, Greg!" for his many years of service on the World Service Board of Trustees.

Becky then indicated she would like to ask the invited MDF participants to the Friday trustee meeting.

There has been a request from WSC PI for several trustees to meet with them during their committee meeting on Friday, probably in the afternoon. The trustee meeting will begin at 9:00 AM on Friday. The tentative agenda will be discussion of plans for next year, follow-up on the MDF and additional needs. The open forum portion of the meeting will be from 3:00 PM until closing. Also, the MDF participants will be invited to attend at 9:00 AM.

The meeting recessed at 10:15 PM with the Serenity Prayer.

**Friday, May 1, 1992**

**Trustees Present:**

Becky M., Chairperson  
Garth P., Vice Chairperson  
Jamie S-H.  
Greg P.  
Chuck L.  
Stu T.  
Danette B.  
Steve B.  
Kim J.  
Pete C.

**Trustees Absent:**

Donna M.  
Bob McKendrick  
Jack B.

**Additional Needs Panel:**

Darwyn Langley

**WSO Staff:**

Hollie Arnold  
Lee Manchester

**New Trustees:**

Barbara Jorgensen  
Bob Smith

**Visitors:** MDF Participants and Conference Participants

The meeting was opened by Becky M. at 11:45 AM with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer.

Becky and all the trustees heartily welcomed Barbara Jorgensen and Bob Smith as new trustees. Thanks were voiced to Greg P. for his service as trustee. Greg commented on his thirteen years as a trustee, and stated he still feels like he will be part of the World Service Board of Trustees. Jack B. was also thanked for his many years of service on the World Service Board of Trustees.

Becky made the full board aware of a concern brought to her by the RSR from the German-Speaking Region. His concern is in reference to the mention in our October 1991 minutes of a letter received by the European Resource Group. Becky stated she plans to write a letter to the German-Speaking Region explaining how their letter became a part of the trustee's discussion in October.

A motion was presented by the WSB and WSO Board after hearing the concerns during the panel session about the lack of adequate review time on the Fellowship Intellectual Property Trust Document. This motion asked that this document be committed back to the WSB and an RSR working group to solicit, review, and factor in, where appropriate, additional input on the document. It will then be re-released in the 1993 CAR.

An open forum was then held allowing for both the invited MDF participants and other participants from outside the continental US to share their thoughts on the events of conference week. A full report on the MDF will be released after the conference. There was much positive and emotional sharing of gratitude and support for the efforts of the trustees and world services in general for providing the

opportunity for the MDF to occur. All those present were asked to think about the events of this week after returning home and to provide written input back to the WSB for future planning for events of this nature. Some specific comments were as follows:

- "The information that I'll take home is more important than my participation here."
- "This week has shown me that people do care, no matter where they are from. I would like to have more ability to impact the agenda, as well as be involved more in group discussions."
- "Feel that NA really is worldwide now."
- "Feel that some of the prejudice is starting to go away. My country has questions about HIV and recovery, as this is a big problem and they don't know how to deal with it."
- ""Not sure that my country will respond very positively if I tell them the WSC needs money, so I'll have to share with them how I felt this week. I'll be encouraging them to have a fundraiser."
- "I got too much information in too little time. Have felt like a 'little kid' due to the language barrier and my inexperience. My local fellowship is very small and basic; we don't even vote anymore but discuss issues until we reach consensus."
- "Would like more time to work on solutions, instead of just discussing problems. Written translations of CAR would help. Agree that we need to look at the AIDS issue, maybe by putting a story in the Basic Text from someone dealing with this disease."
- "Very impressed with the week. While I understand and appreciate the translations difficulties I remain very optimistic at our cooperative efforts. Would like to see WSO/WSC take on a more universal approach."
- "The most important thing I learned this week is that we are united and connected with all of world services. Would also like translations of routine communications like the *Newsline* and *Conference Digest*."
- "The opportunity I had to attend a local H&I panel was of more impact than sitting in committee meetings. Attending the local NA meetings was also great."
- "Would like to have beginners packet to explain when and where we are supposed to be; maybe have an early morning meeting to help in coordinating the day. Also would have liked for local PI and H&I to put on 'learning day' type events."
- "This week has shown me how much work we have to do and how big we can grow."
- "Have been really touched by the support we have received this week. Feel like we are really part of the worldwide fellowship now."

"Never imagined last year that it would work this fast to have all of us here together. There are no boundaries in NA."

There was general agreement from the trustees that there is a need for more translations assistance. The suggestion was made that everyone attending this meeting take home with them the feeling of "together, we can" which has been so evident this week. Several of the trustees shared that this week has renewed their sense of purpose and increased their enthusiasm for continuing as trustees. Much appreciation was expressed to all the participants from throughout the world, as this week has shown that "we are all the same" by sharing experience, strength and hope with each other. One trustee suggested finding a way to look at the contradiction between group/panel discussions and parliamentary procedure. All attending were reminded that this year's conference has just begun the process for continuing change and growth as a worldwide fellowship.

An Open Forum was then held to allow for questions from members for the trustees. Most of the discussion centered on HIV and how HIV is an outside issue but that addicts with HIV is not. The WSB agreed to address this issue during the upcoming conference year.

Darwyn L, Additional Needs Panel member, previewed the American Sign Language video tape of the NA White Book for everyone at the trustee meeting at 2:30 PM. He informed the trustees that the deaf members from Houston who were planning to attend had changed their plans and will not be coming. These members had decided not to come as they did not feel "Good enough" to attend and participate in the conference. Darwyn reminded everyone of the isolation these members live in all the time. Additionally, the translator also will not be attending the remainder of the WSC either since the deaf members are not coming.

The trustee meeting recessed at 3:05 PM with the Serenity Prayer, at which time all the trustees went to the WSC PI Committee meeting as invited.

The trustee meeting reconvened at 4:40 PM to discuss pending business prior to the new business session tomorrow.

The first item discussed was the need to make a decision soon on how to respond the NJ PI Survey request. Concern is evident regarding aspects of the survey such as how the data will be collected. Additionally, the members, groups and areas in NJ thought the WSB had given approval for this survey to occur, which is not correct. There is also no way to be certain of how this data will be used or who the surveyors are connected with. A decision was made to contact the surveyor/researcher to discuss the survey process, and to advise him that NA can't cooperate with him as it is an outside issue. Also, the groups could be advised that they can cooperate with his survey but that it is entirely voluntary.

The next item discussed was the motions referred to the WSB for discussion during the new business session.

- #112 PI video funding, development and production--REJECT 8/0/0
- #116 WSC confirms use of contract writers who are NA members and who work within our literature development process--RECOMMEND IT BE PROPOSED FOR CONFERENCE ACTION SO CONFERENCE CAN DECIDE.
- #119 WSC meeting every two years--COMMIT TO AD HOC NAS 8/0/0
- #120 WSB Internal Affairs and WSC Policy to review WSC elections procedures and make recommendation--ADOPT 8/0/0
- #122 Directing the WSC Policy committee to create an elections procedure reflecting input from the 91 and 92 RSR working groups, as well as input from the WSC, BOD, and WSC Admin for approval at the 93 WSC--REJECT 8/0/0
- #125 WSC affirms zonal forums, as service oriented sharing sessions providing more communication, cooperation and growth between NA communities--ADOPT 8/0/0
- #126 Resolution (previously adopted on 4/30) affirming that there are no "foreign" languages or countries and that English is the working language of the WSC--ADOPT AS AMENDED by deleting English as the working language of the WSC--8/0/0
- #127 Amend TWGSS by replacing language resolving that the portion of the WSC known as the MDF shall be referred to in the future as the Development Forum of the World Service Conference--ADOPT 8/0/0/
- #128 WSB to prepare a paper on the history of the Basic Text.--REJECT as is already available--8/0/0 Will include this information in conference summary report.
- #129 Formation of an Outreach Ad Hoc Committee at world level--REJECT and present substitute motion that WSB establish an outreach panel functioning under the auspices of the WSB Internal Affairs Committee
- #130 Develop a Ways and Means Committee to oversee financial responsibilities of the WSC and to make decisions affecting world services when the conference is not in session--REJECT 7/0/0

Items for inclusion in the WSB report for tomorrow were then developed. These include the Traditions project (Draft is out and the approval plan), and that we will be looking at our internal system including communications, information sharing and how the trustees handle business. Additionally, reporting will be done on the ASL translations/review process and how the trustees can work with the translations committee to expedite the process.

Trustee assignments were then made with Danette being assigned as the Associate Editor of *The NA Way*. Garth requested that Pete C. replace him as the WSB liaison to the Tape Review Committee. Pete has also requested that he be assigned to *The NA Way* review panel. Becky will also ask Steve B. if he would like to be assigned to this review panel.

Assignments were also made to the NJ Survey panel of Danette, Stu and Bob S.

The meeting adjourned at 7:00 PM.