

1992 Conference Agenda Report (Page 15) - WORLD SERVICE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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This report and the January *Conference Report* are my first "official" acts as the incoming chairperson of the World Service Board of Trustees. For those who did not see the last *Conference Report*, Garth P. from Australia is the new vice chairperson. Having spent two and a half years as vice chair, I had expected to feel better prepared. It is a little overwhelming, but a privilege at the same time. I want to take this opportunity to thank Jack B. for his support and friendship, his many years of service on the board, and his leadership as our chairperson.

This report contains the four items the World Service Board of Trustees are presenting for action at the 1992 World Service Conference: the World Service Board of Trustees Operational Procedures, the WSB Internal Guidelines, a one year proposal for dual membership on the boards of trustees and directors, and the Fellowship Intellectual Property Trust.

Fellowship Intellectual Property Trust

At the 1991 World Service Conference, two motions were passed concerning publication, distribution, protection, and ownership of NA's literature and intellectual properties.

"To reaffirm that the World Service Office, Inc. is the exclusive publisher and distributor of all World Service Conference-approved literature, including all books, pamphlets, handbooks, and other intellectual and physical properties, as directed by the Fellowship of Narcotics Anonymous through the World Service Conference."

"To reaffirm and ratify that the ownership of all of NA's intellectual and physical properties prepared in the past, and to be prepared into the future, is held by WSO, Inc., which holds such title in trust on behalf of the Fellowship of Narcotics Anonymous as a whole, in accordance with the decisions of the World Service Conference."

Prior to the conference in 1991, a working group began preparation of a "trust" document describing how the properties of the fellowship are administered and the procedures to follow to affect future changes. This group was composed of the then-chairperson of the WSO board [Stu Tooredman], the then-vice chairperson of the WSB [Becky Meyer], a WSO staff member, and several interested NA members. The basis of the work centered on the relationship between the WSC and the WSO and reflected past actions of the WSC, WSB, and WSO board in reference to the development, approval, printing, and distribution of conference-approved NA literature. It was also consistent with the current WSO bylaws. Early on in the process, we made a decision that this document should only reflect current practices; any changes to our service structure and/or decision-making processes should be made separately, especially those concerning the relationship of the WSC to the fellowship at large.

Several conference calls were held and written input was distributed among the group members. The input and discussions indicated that a stalemate existed and that a compromise was not attainable to satisfy both sides without significant changes to the existing service structure. This was reported to the WSO Board of Directors at its June meeting. The WSO board then decided that its work was done and that it would be more appropriate for another group to handle this project. The WSC Administrative Committee then assumed oversight of the document and recommended that the WSB Internal Affairs Committee handle the final review. After further review and clarification, the document was presented to a combined world services meeting attended by the trustees, directors, and WSC Administrative Committee members in October 1991. The consensus of the combined meeting was to present the document in the *Conference Agenda Report* as a motion from the World Service Board of Trustees.

The trust document was mailed to all conference participants in early December 1991 so that it would have more time for review and discussion in the fellowship.

The motions passed by WSC '91 afforded the fellowship immediate protection of its properties. The Fellowship Intellectual Property Trust follows those actions through by establishing a clear policy for the operation and administration of NA's intellectual properties. It is the consensus of the World Service Board of Trustees that this document is now finished and ready for WSC approval. Postponement of its approval will not provide any

particular advantage, but we stand ready to accept the postponement of consideration of the trust if the WSC is clearly not prepared to approve it.

The World Service Board of Trustees therefore recommends that the World Service Conference adopt the following motion:

#8. To approve Addendum 3, "The Fellowship Intellectual Property Trust."

Intent: To establish a trust that defines how the intellectual properties of the NA Fellowship are to be administered and protected.

Financial impact: No direct financial impact.

Becky Meyer, Chairperson

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29, 1992

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

BEFORE THE HONORABLE LOUIS H. POLLACK, S. J.

WSO vs. Dave Morehead - The court began the telephone Conference in chambers at 10:30

THE COURT: Mr. Synnestvedt, I think you better call your client right now.

MR. SYNNESTVEDT: I'd like to do that, your Honor.

THE COURT: - -Immediately, and report back at once. If this agenda item has been reached, then we will have to consider whether we should direct the conference to suspend consideration of the item pending Mr. Emmons and you coming down here and pursuing this matter somewhat further. I'm really quite concerned, Mr. Synnestvedt, that - - [this wording insinuates that the judge was ready to sign contempt of court papers]

MR. SYNNESTVEDT: Your Honor, I will endeavor to reach them at the convention floor, Your Honor, and call you right back.

THE COURT: At once.

MR. EMMONS: Thank you, Your Honor.

(Recess was held at 10:45 a.m., and resumed the proceedings at 11:00 a.m.)

THE COURT: What do we know?

MR. SYNNESTVEDT: I was able to reach Mr. Edmondson, and I have the following news to report. A few moments ago there was a motion carried to commit this motion, and we have the exact wording of the motion.

THE COURT: You say to commit it?

MR. EMMONS: Meaning to table it.

MR. SYNNESTVEDT: It was, in effect tabled for a year. So you can read the wording of the motion.

THE COURT: If you would.

1992 WSC Minutes - WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29, 1992

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The meeting was called to order by Barbara J., Chairperson of the WSC 1991-92, at 8:15 a.m....

It was M/S/C Becky M. (WSB Chairperson)/Bob Mcd. (WSO BOD Chairperson), motion #103. "To commit motion #8 to the World Service Board and a RSR working group to be appointed by the WSC Chairperson to solicit, review, and factor in, where appropriate, additional input on the Fellowship Intellectual Property Trust for presentation to the fellowship in the 1993 Conference Agenda Report."

MOTION TO COMMIT CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE.

Editor note: This information proposes that only a few members (5 or 6) wrote the FIPT. The move to dope fiend the FIPT into existence at WSC 1992 was thwarted by the United States judicial system. They were forced to table the issue and brought it back up at the 1993 WSC in very much the same form. This was in essence Phase 1 - In which Doris gets her oats.