

SERVICE STRUCTURE COMMITTEE MINUTES

APRIL 17, 2017

6PM EDT

712-770-4010 ACCESS: 281687#

1. Serenity Prayer:

God, grant me the serenity
To accept the people I cannot change,
The courage to change the one I can,
And the wisdom to know that one is me.

2. Members Present: Marcia, Charlie H., Nancy U., Jim R. David McB, L

3. Purpose: *As an ad hoc committee of the ACA WSO, our purpose is to research the service structures of other global fellowships in order to recommend how ACA should best organize its service structure to serve its growing fellowship nationally and globally.*

OLD BUSINESS

1. **Approve the minutes from the April 10 meeting.** Minutes are not yet available, so will be tabled until the next meeting.
2. **Recommendation for Regions:** Charlie H. presented the compromise reached concerning an interim plan for accepting regions and seating regional representatives. Taking the recommendations from our committee into consideration the Board of Trustees agreed on the following Interim Agreement.

Interim Regions Policy

In March 2017, the WSO Board of Trustees asked the Service Structure Ad Hoc Committee to recommend interim guidelines for recognizing newly formed ACA regional service bodies. The request was made in recognition that one new Region has formed, and others are being explored, at a time when WSO's policies governing regional service bodies need updating and clarification.

The committee previously had studied regional formation and representation as part of a broad review of many aspects of ACA's service structure. Eight committee members held two meetings in response to the WSO board's request.

Motion: Relying in significant part on recommendations from the Service Structure Ad Hoc Committee, WSO adopts the following interim guidance on new regional service bodies:

- 1) ACA World Service Organization reaffirms its historical commitment to the formation of regional service entities as important channels for improving service to the fellowship, and for increasing connections between groups, Intergroups, and the WSO.
- 2) The WSO board authorizes an expedited review by the Service Structure Committee of all policies governing regional formation and representation, with a goal of proposing clearly written mechanisms for regional structures that are stable yet flexible, and predictable yet equitable.

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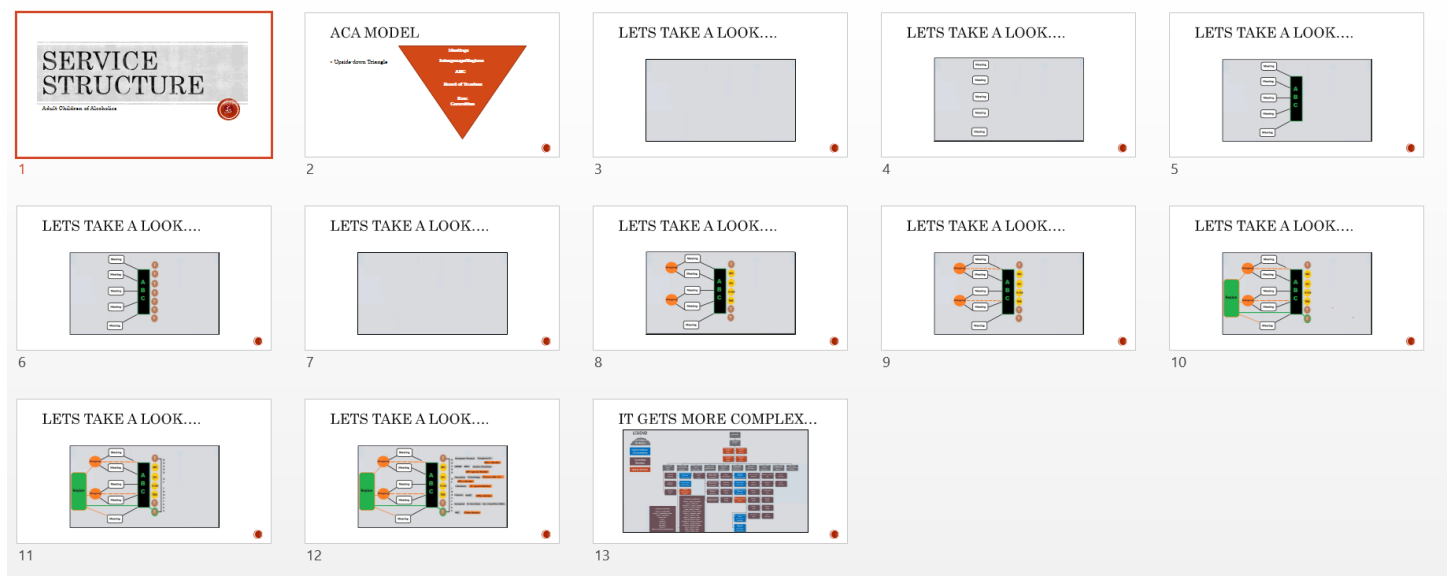
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- 3) The WSO board recognizes that an existing map defining ACA Regions must be updated, since it was drawn more than 25 years ago, before the WSO had its own literature in English or foreign translated versions. It therefore authorizes the Service Structure Ad Hoc Committee to propose a new Region map that reflects ACA's changing global membership patterns.
- 4) In the interim, until a new map is adopted, Regions seeking registration and a seat on the WSO Board should follow the existing WSO regional map (attached to this motion). To ensure a proposed region has a meaningful linkage to the fellowship, a new region may be asked to demonstrate significant participation by intergroups and groups in its designated area. Also, in keeping with BRB pages 604-605, new regions should present written service plans designed to benefit members in their geographical area.
- 5) Regional Service Committees, which are not eligible for a seat on the Board, may register and form according to their own group conscience and needs, and do not need to conform to the Region map.
- 6) WSO commits to adopting clear, consistent written criteria for board eligibility, so that all service bodies and all members of the world fellowship can prepare themselves to seek WSO volunteer and board service opportunities. These criteria, which include WSO service needs and best practices, will be incorporated into the OPPM, to guide service bodies and WSO in nominating and selecting trustees.
- 7) Until a broad service structure revision devises new policies governing regional service entities, a Region that has registered with WSO, and been ratified by the board, may nominate a candidate for the board of trustees to vet and consider in a timely manner, using OPPM board eligibility criteria.
- 8) WSO's board accepts the application of the Greater Western US Region to register as WSO Region 2, and commits to a timely review and vote on a board nominee submitted by the region, using OPPM board eligibility criteria.
- 9) These steps are interim in nature. Potentially significant adjustments, including borders for Regions, may be required when WSO adopts long-term changes to ACA's service structure. Such changes could include provisions for professional management and staff to take over much of the day-to-day operations currently managed by the Board

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NEW BUSINESS

- 1. Presentation for the ABC:** Marcia presented the PowerPoint slides she currently has available for the presentation that our committee will be making at the ABC. There was some concern that more information be included so our audience would not have enough information. It was decided to keep what we currently have.



2. Recommendations for the ABC

- **Ad Hoc Committee on Service Structure**

RECOMMENDATION 1: Continuation of the Ad Hoc Committee which will continue to identify areas of possible adjustment within the organization, participate as members of work groups to define and create policy for areas of development, and suggest methods of transition from a current practice, and work on writing the policies and procedures that are developed.

- **Year-round Service Participation (ABC Delegates)**

RECOMMENDATION 2: That the Service Structure Committee identify the most appropriate year-round service models in other fellowships, and make recommendations for consideration by the ACA fellowship, and eventual review and adoption by the WSO board and ABC.

- **Role of Conference (Conference)**

RECOMMENDATION 3: That the Service Structure Committee **continue** review other 12 Step fellowships and recommend tools that will clarify and affirm the ACA Conference's role in guiding policy and supporting the world ACA fellowship's continued growth.

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- **Communication Tools (Communication)**

RECOMMENDATION 4: That the Service Structure Committee and other volunteers develop communication tools to address the business side of ACA for consideration by the ACA fellowship and eventual review and adoption by the WSO Board and ABC.

- **Service Documents (Foundational Documents)**

RECOMMENDATION 5: That the Service Structure Committee and other volunteers develop detailed service documents, such as a Conference Charter and a fellowship service manual, for consideration by the ACA fellowship, and eventual review and adoption by the WSO board and ABC.

- **International Fellowship**

RECOMMENDATION 6: That ACA continue to support the International Committee as it grows and develops organically.

- **Literature**

RECOMMENDATION 7: That the Service Structure Committee and other volunteers develop further subcommittees under the current Literature Committee that will narrow the focus for the group in general for consideration by the ACA fellowship and eventual review and adoption by the WSO Board and ABC.

- **Organizational Structure**

RECOMMENDATION 8: That the Service Structure Committee and other volunteers develop a system of geographic units for consideration by the ACA fellowship, and eventual review and adoption by the WSO board and ABC.

- **Fellowship Representation (Representation)**

RECOMMENDATION 9: That the Service Structure Committee review relevant 12 Step models, and recommend measures to increase and guide ACA fellowship involvement in electing ACA trustees and delegates. The committee specifically should recommend amendments to OPPM, so that regional or similarly chosen trustees can be elected in an orderly and sustainable way.

- **Service Opportunities**

RECOMMENDATION 10: That the Service Structure Committee and other volunteers develop a support system for consideration by the ACA fellowship, and eventual review and adoption by the WSO board and ABC. The system developed will provide a uniform structure for service opportunities.

NEXT MEETING: ABC