



MONTHLY TELECONFERENCE MINUTES

April 14, 2018

2PM EST 712-432-0075 PIN: 427266#

Press *6 to mute or un-mute.

THIS IS A REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING WITH NOTICE GIVEN ON THE ACAWSO WEBSITE AND THE TRAVELER NEWSLETTER
Please notify the secretary with changes, additions, or motions for this meeting.

A. Call to Order: Mary Jo L. called the meeting to order at 2:01 PM EDT with the Traditional Serenity Prayer

B. Roll Call of Board Members:

Present: David McB, Carole C. Mary Jo L, Marcia J., Charlie H, Bill D, Jeffrey F,

Absent: Majbrit M, Jim B.

C. Quorum established

D. Minutes: Motion to approve the March 10, 2018 Teleconference Minutes (Marcia J.)

Second: David McB

Discussion:

Decision: Motion passes unanimously

E. Guest Introductions

- | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|
| • Arthur Cambridge, MA | • Greg R. TX Lonestar IG | • Karin | • Pat H. CA Audit CA 1258
Committee Chair |
| • Bonnie K-M TX081/IG600
Ballot Com, IG Chair | Jean Brookline, MA New
England IG | • Mardi M. MT026
ComLine Editor | • Svetlana Calgary GR |
| • Brody F. CA1175 DTSC
Chair | • Jim R. Brooklyn,
NY109/ABC Chair, OPPM
Comm. | • Marty S. | • Terry AK020 |
| • Denise Anchorage, AK021
Lit/ARC Greater Western
2 | • John S. | • Marty Los Angeles | • Todd H. CA 1252 |
| • Erin PA076 Vice-Chair
DTSC | • Josh W. DC IG 626 | • Miles Belleville Ont. Co-
Chair 2018 ABC/AWC
Host Cmte, OPPM SSC
CAN328 MPS | • Rosalee West WA IG595 |

F. Tradition Four: Each group is autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or ACA as a whole. We cooperate with all other Twelve-Step programs.

G. Committee Reports: *All reports can be found on the business website:* <http://acawso.org>

1. Executive Committee—Majbrit M.

Majbrit reported on 4 actions approved by the Executive Committee between March 10 and April 14, 2018.

2. Archive Committee—Marcia J.

The committee is looking for a chair. Marcia is hoping to develop some contacts at the ABC/AWC. There is a possibility of a person from Toronto. Marcia will meet with Laura and Gloria to find out the current status and ask their suggestions as to how to proceed.

3. Treasurer's Report: Bill D.

Bill D. went over the balance sheet and the profit and loss statement. Expenses for the month were \$9,526 higher than last month due to planned payments to the auditors and the consultant overhauling our accounting and inventory management systems. Also, as a result of the extra pay period in the month and new employees, WSO payroll was up 34% from the prior month.

To see the 7th Tradition Contributions for March click the link below or on the 7th Traditions tab in the right-side menu of the acawso.org website.

[CLICK HERE TO VIEW THE 7TH TRADITION CONTRIBUTIONS](#)

Finance Committee: Bill D.

The committee meets weekly. The committee worked this past month on numerous projects including reviewing the financial statements, accrual accounting, international bank account, vetting and recommending an external consultant to get our accounting and inventory management systems upgraded, and making recommendations to the board for modifications to the Fiscal Policy and Expense Reimbursement sections of the OPPM. The committee continued to refine the finance annual report and receive updates on the progress of the external accounting consultant and the audit. The committee discussed the quotes received to prepare the 2017 990 Federal Tax Return and recommended we use Wilshire Financial Services again this year.

4. Literature Committee: Charlie H.

We have re-established the quarterly Literature Committee call schedule going forward for the first Saturday of each quarter at 11:30 a.m. eastern US. The date for our second quarterly 2018 Literature Committee Meeting is Saturday, April 7, at 11:30 a.m. Eastern United States Time. We are always looking for volunteers. If you are interested, please contact Charlie at literature@acawso.org.

Lit Development: The Little Big Red Book (LBRB) project is in progress. It will focus on what people most need to know when first coming into the program. **The Loving Parent Workbook (LPW)** project is being led by Bonnie K-M. Its purpose is to help members experientially understand the issues

around reparenting.

Emotional Sobriety (Welcome to Other 12-Step Fellowships) trifold conference call meeting was held Thursday, February 8. This group is being led by Charlie H. Content has been finalized for presentation to ABC. A draft of this proposed trifold can be found at <https://acawso.org/2018/04/07/new-literature-for-fellowship-review-finding-emotional-sobriety-trifold/>

Ready, Set, GO!! (RSG) after more than two years of development and field testing by the West Great Lakes ACA Intergroup, Ready, Set, GO!! is now ready for presentation at the ABC. We are checking for any last minute copyright problems having to do with a logo in the document. To view a draft of this literature, see <https://acawso.org/2018/04/07/new-literature-for-fellowship-review-ready-set-go/>

Evaluation Team: The team has an ongoing review of submissions. We have redrafted the WSO Literature Development Policy. The new policy outlines procedures for submitting a new or change literature proposal, the evaluation, development, and production processes, and provides criteria guidelines for members considering a proposal, as well as a timetable estimate. The literature development policy can be found at <https://acawso.org/2018/03/13/wso-literature-development-policy/>.

The second quarter ComLine will be out on April 1. Alexia from Germany helped with layout. We are continuing to look for submissions from global fellowship. The next issue will be an ABCAWC special issue

The Russians will be reprinting their BRB. All 1500 of the first run sold in 6 months. 1000 books will be in this second printing. The Spanish and Finnish fellowships are also doing reprints. We are working to get YWB in Russian ready to be printed and sold by September. The Swedish Fellowship is looking to print 2,000. They have gone through this much in the last year. Lots of newcomers.

Majbrit, Robin, Charlie and teams of **translators** in the Netherlands and Germany are developing a guide for translators. Hoping to have calls every two months for translators

5. Members and Public Service Committee (MPS): Bill D.

The committee continues to grow and anyone interested is invited to join. The Traveler will go out this weekend to a subscriber list of 4,300. The word will be spread about the ABC and the Nominating Committee. A membership survey is also going out.

The Literature Placement Policy was approved by the board. This will give us guidance on giving free literature to health care practitioners. A presentation was given by an ACA member to a group of therapists in Southern California. Each therapist was given a BRB until they ran out. There was lots of excitement upon hearing about our program from a colleague.

Reusable stand-alone banners are being created for the ABC/AWC with the steps, traditions, and laundry list. We are working with other committees to create window shaped banners of the steps, traditions, promises, and the laundry list to be made available to individual meetings.

Public Service Announcements have been developed and put on the website. They are now available for download and distribution to local radio and other websites to spread the message. The committee is beginning a discussion and including the WSO about the possible use of social media within the traditions.

6. European Committee: Jeffrey F.

Jeffrey will not be seeking reappointment to the Board of Trustees. He needs more time to spend on his business. He will continue working with the European Committee. He thanks the fellowship for allowing him to serve during the past two years. Charlie thanked Jeffrey, telling him that his work had been visionary in creating channels for people to receive affordable literature in a timely manner.

Jeffrey spoke with groups of about 12 at speaker meetings in Bulgaria and Romania and was well received. He was able to get a contact person for Bulgaria. Outside of the USA in countries where English is not spoken, there are small groups of people trying to translate ACA materials into the language of their childhood. Meeting with members of the WSO helps to promote trust and answer questions. Charlie mentioned that there is an effort to work with translator more directly on the literature call. Hopefully this will free up the monthly meeting of the European Committee to deal with other matters.

The Annual European meeting will be held in London, England from Friday September 28 through Saturday September 29 at the Scottish Rite Church of St. Columbus. Planning is in the beginning stages. This will be the largest event to be held in the UK to date.

7. DCOC: Mary Jo L.

As of the end of March there were 2,044 meetings registered on the WSO website. This is an increase of 31 from February. There are many more meetings globally that are not registered and we encourage them to do so in order to be visible to the rest of the world. There are 85 active Intergroups—an increase of 1 since February. There is one active Region: The Greater Western USA Region.

We have been having Inventory reorder issues at the warehouse. Also, we are preparing to sell through Amazon CAN. There are two new hires working at Signal Hill, Keara Schneider and Jose Vazquez. We have purchased a reach truck allowing staff to move pallets to three levels.

8. Audit Committee: Pat H.

The field work, which turned out to be extensive, has been wrapped up. Thank you to Tammie G. and Patricia for help in this endeavor. The auditors are reviewing their findings in order to create a preliminary list of suggestions for the board. There will be recommendations for more internal controls.

9. Service Structure Committee: Marcia J

A decision was made to allow have the Nominating Committee give their own report at the ABC with an introduction by Carole C.

More work was done on the Regional Map for Canada and the United States. There was consensus on a two region area for Canada. Discussions for the United States revolve around work already done in Region 2 and the Midwest, population, numbers of meetings and intergroups and which areas may be most compatible culturally.

There are four maps (all including the Canadian divisions) that will be presented for discussion and feedback at the ABC. It is the hope of the committee that as our work continues into 2018-2019, we will be able to recommend a final map, and a projected network infrastructure based on our own work, feedback from the ABC, and future input from the fellowship.

10. Website/Database Committee: Charlie H.

Charlie H. is now the Vice-chair of the Website/Database Committee. The committee is supporting a growing number of websites including www.adultchildren.org, www.acawso.org, www.shop.adultchildren.org, www.acaworldconvention.org, and now www.abc.adultchildren.org . We need volunteers experienced with design, particularly with the Word Press program.

The ABC will be broadcast via teleconference. See www.acawso.org for details. A public URL will also be provided to share the same screen presentations being shown at the ABC.

The Daily Meditation will soon be available at www.adultchildren.org . Meeting updates are being worked on to assure security.

Monthly statistics can be found with the report at www.acawso.org.

11. ABC Committee: Jim R.

Things are going well in preparation for the ABC/AWC. People are getting excited. There will be a meal and a chance to watch the Sunset from the CNN Tower on Tuesday before the ABC.

Miles C. will chair the ABC, and we have a parliamentarian on site. Please register for meals now so we can meet our contracted cost. A survey about the convention program has been created to judge

interest in the presentations. We are hoping to match rooms with projected numbers of participants. Guidance is still needed on the agenda.

There have been two trainings for ABC delegates so far. A third will be held closer to the ABC in hopes of attracting more participants. Brody F. will be stepping down as chair of the Delegate Training Committee. He recommends Erin as the next chair. She has done a great job of delivering training so far, and will be doing the training at the ABC. She is working on the presentation and on handouts to be passed out at the ABC. We still need guidance about the timing for the workshop. We hope to have a survey about the training available at the end of the ABC.

12. OPKM Committee: Mary Jo L

The goal of the committee was to revise as much as possible so that practice is consistent with reality. Some things were not finished, but we have a pretty good document. Jim R, Miles, Laura L, and Bonnie K-M worked hard to help make this happen. We are currently taking a break until after the ABC. This is a living document. It may change, so be sure you are looking at the latest copy. You can find the latest copy at www.acawso.org (The Repository)

13. Nominating Committee: Greg R.

The committee is still looking for members. They are checking references for four current applicants. If you know someone who would qualify as a committee member, please contact the committee.

Jim B. has posted static information for the committee and helped create a page that reflects the committee mission. An independent Slack account has been created in order for the committee to work with confidentiality. Confidential archives have also been created as well as a reporting template. The committee is also making a collection of *Lessons Learned*.

Wording was created for two fellowship blasts. Nine people have been invited to apply for two Board positions. Three of those invited applied. We have started our interviews and have done about a dozen. We should have our recommendations to the board by April 19.

Our first report to the ABC has been submitted.

H. Read into the Record—Specific Concurrences: These motions are being read into the record as they were approved outside of a board meeting via online communication because of the urgency for approval. The Board member who concurred first is shown as the Second for the motion.

- 1. Motion:** Request board approval to authorize purchase of 10,000 Hardcover Big Red Books, SKU 100-01 at an approximate cost of \$46,273. In addition Bang will charge \$2,000 to print and apply a barcode sticker and an estimated 2,803 for shipping. The total estimated cost will be \$51,076 which we will likely draw out of our inventory purchase reserve. (DCOC)

Background: The inventory is down to about 2 months of supply in all outlets. We have the space to

store a larger order now and this will decrease our cost by .15 per book or \$1,500 overall to order this quantity. It would be the largest order ever placed for BRB. The prior largest order was 7,500. The DCOC unanimously recommends this purchase.

Decision: Motion passes unanimously

- 2. Motion:** To add the daily meditation to the website. Users to the website will be able to see a graphics image of the daily ACA mediation, strengthening my recovery. The image will prevent people from copying the text. At most 7 day's mediations will be available, with only the current days being available initially. A budget of \$ 1,000 will be provided for this project. The website committee will get 3 quotes for this project before proceeding. (Jim B. March 24)

Background: Having the ACA daily meditation available on the website will be a great resource for ACA members, particularly when traveling. It will drive traffic to our website and increase our search engine ranking. This will increase awareness of the book and we will provide links to our shopping cart for those interested in having the hard copy. We will monitor the number of users viewing the page and also see if sales of the actual book are affected and consider other display or pricing models if needed.

Second: David McB

Discussion: Concerns about potential loss of revenue were expressed, but the trustees thought it would be good to see if this perhaps helps to spread the message and results in greater sales. There was discussion of possible translation capabilities.

Decision: Motion passes unanimously.

- 3. Motion:** To approve the purchase of a Noblelift Mast Moving Reach Truck for use in the Distribution Center Warehouse. The cost is \$12,485 plus tax and delivery for a total of \$13,884.60. (DCOC March 27)

Background: In May of 2017, WSO moved to larger facilities and had pallet racks installed that allows vertical storage of inventory. Since moving we have borrowed the services of a neighboring business when pallet racks had to be moved around. This can be a liability issue for WSO and not recommended as a continuing practice. We researched other options, including buying used and leasing. With used equipment, the disadvantages seemed to outweigh the advantages because of potential maintenance issues. The associated costs with leasing could be over \$1,100, which does not seem to be a prudent use of fellowship funds. Therefore, the DCOC recommends this purchase as the best, most cost effective way to be self-sustaining.

Second: David McB

Discussion: None

Decision: Motion passes unanimously.

- 4. Motion:** To decrease the price of the Commemorative edition of the Fellowship Text (BRB) from \$17 to \$15. (DCOC April 2)

Background: WSO still has a substantial quantity of this book on hand and all numbered copies were sold during the first few months it was available. The DCOC feels it's prudent to start selling them at the same price as the regular BRB to get them into the hands of the Fellowship.

Second: Bill D.

Discussion: None

Decision: Motion passes unanimously.

5. **Motion:** To approve the purchase of 1500 International Spanish language Yellow Workbooks from Bang Printing at an approximate cost of \$4,784 including shipping. (DCOC April 3)

Background: The DCOC has evaluated the sales trends and inventory storage capacity and recommends this purchase. This is the largest quantity of these books ever placed so it requires board approval.

Second: Mary Jo L.

Discussion: None

Decision: Motion passes unanimously. (Charlie?)

6. **Motion:** To approve the purchase of 100 each 39 Year Coin and 100 40 Year Coin from Wendell's. Total amount is \$332 plus shipping. (DCOC April 3)

Background: This will be our first order for these two coins so full board approval is being sought.

Second: Jim B.

Discussion: None

Decision: Motion passes unanimously.

7. **Motion:** To amend Motion 2018_0113_04 to say OPPM Revisions Sections I - IIIH instead of Sections I - IIIG. (OPPM Committee April 2)

Background: There was a typographical error in the document.

Second: Bill D.

Discussion: None

Decision: Motion passes unanimously.

8. **Motion:** That the Board accept the changes presented to them for Section III I through the end of that section of the OPPM. (OPPM Committee March 26)

Background: The OPPM Committee has made changes to this section to bring everything up-to-date with current Board and WSO practices. With the approval of this motion, these changes will be integrated into the OPPM with the appropriate notation about what sections were revised as of the date of approval of this motion.

Second: Marcia J.

Discussion: There was an explanation requested and given that the election of Trustees is placed by design after the Nominating Committee information.

Decision: Motion passes unanimously.

9. **Motion:** That the Board accept the changes presented to them for Section XVI - ACA WSO ComLine. (OPPM Committee March 26)

Background: The OPPM Committee has made changes to this section to bring everything up-to-date with current Board and WSO practices. With the approval of this motion, these changes will be integrated into the OPPM with the appropriate notation about what sections were revised as of the date of approval of this motion.

Second: Marcia J.

Discussion: None

Decision: Motion passes unanimously.

10. **Motion:** That the Board accept the changes presented to them for Section XII - Literature Policy. (OPPM Committee March 28)

Background: The OPPM Committee has made changes to this section to bring everything up-to-date with current Board and WSO practices. With the approval of this motion, these changes will be integrated into the OPPM with the appropriate notation about what sections were revised as of the date of approval of this motion.

Second: Marcia J.

Discussion: None

Abstain: Jim B.

Decision: Motion passes with 8 votes.

11. **Motion:** That the Board accept the changes presented to them for Sections XIX - Annual Business Conference and XX - Ballot/Group Conscience Survey Preparation Committee (BPC). (Mary Jo L. April 1)

Background: The OPPM Committee has made changes to these sections to bring everything up-to-date with current Board and WSO practices. With the approval of this motion, these changes will be integrated into the OPPM with the appropriate notation about what sections were revised as of the date of approval of this motion.

Second: Marcia J.

Discussion: The following language was incorporated: "*Groups will be asked to vote Yes or No and be allowed to skip a proposal.*" The survey has previously been designed to force an answer, which is why "No Opinion" was used. We really don't know why groups indicate No Opinion on any proposal - it could be because they can't decide, they don't care, or they simply don't have time to finish the

whole ballot. This change of language will eliminate any guesswork and allow us to count only definitive votes.

Decision: Motion passes unanimously.

I. Read into the Record—Working Session motions: these motions are being read into the record as they were voted on during a working session of the Board.

1. Motion: To approve the MPS Committee's purchase of two retractable banner systems with the graphic images of the *Laundry List* and the *Promises* on them for \$225 each. (Bill D.)

Background: These graphics were created to be visible on a 47" wide by 81" tall retractable banner that is freestanding from the floor. The stand and the production of the banner total cost would be approximately \$225 per stand.

Second: Charlie H.

Discussion: MPS Committee is generating the content of the banners, Eleni did the graphic design and is Everything Tradeshow is printing them. In the future, anyone can use them. The shipping cost is unknown. The traditions and the Laundry List might be better to have than the current banners. Change "the steps" to "the promises." The steps and traditions are pretty much the same as AA. Original motion has been changed to reflect the discussion.

Decision: Motion passes unanimously

2. Motion: To establish a social media presence for ACA that conforms totally to the Traditions and will serve as a way for people to see ACA. (Bill D.)

Background: This has come up from two different sources, and we can commission a study by several board members so we can get started.

Decision: Table the motion

Amended Motion: To authorize the MPS Committee to continue study of the role of social media in ACA. (Bill D.)

Background: MPS is already working on this, and anyone interested can join that group.

Second: Charlie

Discussion: MPS is already working on this, and any board members who are interested could join that group. **Amend motion.** We need to consider the workload may overwhelm us. Bill will let us know about meeting times.

Decision: Motion passes unanimously

3. Motion: That the Board approve granting the Russian fellowship, represented by the Moscow Intergroup (MIG), a license to reprint, sell and distribute 1,000 copies of their Russian BRB. The Local Sales Price of 1,000 copies of the Russian BRB = RUB 650,000 – RUB 279,000 (cost to print) = RUB 371,000 total profit margin to be split. 60% of this margin (RUB 222,600 - or approximately USD 3,870) would be paid to the WSO within 30 days signing the license agreement.

Background: The Russian fellowship was granted a license to print 1,500 copies of the Russian BRB in 2017 so this will basically be like an extension of that but with some simplified terms. The first print run of their BRB was delivered in mid-September 2017 and they are out of stock. This license has been discussed and checked for several weeks by the Literature Executive Committee who approved presenting it to the Board.

Second: Majbrit

Decision: Motion passes unanimously

4. **Motion:** To authorize the 2019 AWC to be held on one of the following weekends: July 20, 27 or August 3, 2019

Second: Bill D.

Decision: Motion passes unanimously

6. **Motion:** To adopt the procedures for literature placement presented by the MPS Committee. (Bill D.)
Background: This policy is listed on the MPS page of the website and has been in progress. There had been no formal policy.

Second: David McB

Decisions: Motion passes unanimously

7. **Motion:** Any expenditure in excess of \$1,000 for the purchase of a single item or service should have bids from three (3) suppliers if possible. These bids will be reviewed and specifically approved in advance by the Board of Trustees. Long term contracts such as those for recurring printing orders, office rent, etc. are excluded from this requirement. (Finance Committee)

Background: This was discussed at the finance committee. This is a policy recommended by the auditors.

Second: Jim B.

Discussion: It was agreed that having three bids promotes fiscal responsibility.

The Board will have access to the bid detail, beyond the price, to satisfy our responsibility for due diligence. Discussed whether \$1,000 was too low, but decided that the amount could be raised at a later time if the Board feels it's necessary. This will be added to the fiscal policy section of the OPPM.

Decision: Motion passes unanimously.

8. **Motion:** That the Federal 990 tax return preparation for 2017 be performed by Patricia Wilshire at a cost of \$1,100. (Finance Committee)

Background: Two other prices were obtained and this was the lowest price. The 2nd was for \$2,500 by Vasquez & Company and the 3rd was from HCVT at a little more than \$2,500.

Second: David McB

Discussion: None

Decision: Motion passes unanimously.

9. **Motion:** That the Board accept the changes presented to them for Section VII - *Placing Issues before the Board* and Section VIII - *Board Meetings*. (OPPM Committee March 28)

Background: The OPPM Committee has made changes to these sections to bring everything up-to-date with current Board and WSO practices. With the approval of this motion, these changes will be integrated into the OPPM with the appropriate notation about what sections were revised as of the date of approval of this motion.

Second: Marcia J.

Discussion: Section VII – will change Executive Committee to

Decision: Motion passes unanimously

10. **Motion:** That the Board accept the changes presented to them for Section VII - *Placing Issues before the Board* and Section VIII - *Board Meetings* (OPPM Committee March 28) with the following stipulations:

- 1) Change the language in VII A. to “*contacting any board member*” rather than “*a member of the Executive Committee.*”
- 2) Delete the phrase “*a consensus must be reached*” from section VIII.D.
- 3) Discussions on how simple majority, consensus, and substantial unanimity will be held in the near future. The purpose is to make sure the Bylaws and the OPPM agree and to have one policy for passing a motion.

Background: The OPPM Committee has made changes to these sections to bring everything up-to-date with current Board and WSO practices. With the approval of this motion, these changes will be integrated into the OPPM with the appropriate notation about what sections were revised as of the date of approval of this motion.

Second: Marcia J.

Discussion: Change #1 from “Executive Committee” to “Board”.

Decision: Motion passes unanimously

11. **Motion:** To footnote language in Section XII WSO Office, sub-section B regarding trademark language as follows: “Clarification of Trademark and Logo guidelines is under revision for legal conformity.” (Board Discussion)

Background: Because the specified paragraph refers to language that will be clarified at another time, including in Section XVII – Logo, it was agreed that this footnote should be added to make it clear what the current status is of this language.

Second: Carole

Decision: Motion passes unanimously.

J. New Business: None

K. 2017 ABC Motions and Status

1. Create a new OPPM Committee to complete the revision of the 2012 OPPM. **—Complete**

2. 2017-1: Use of “I” Statements—Passed – Complete

3. 2017-3: Becoming Your Own Loving Parent Wkbk.—Passed

Propose that the WSO create a workbook on Becoming Your Own Loving Parent. **Referred to Literature Committee – a sub-committee has been created to work on this**

4. 2017-4: “Sponsor” vs. “Fellow Traveler” —Passed

Propose that the WSO revise BRB Chapter 11 and the sponsorship pamphlet for clarity and consistency. Recommend use of the term “Fellow Traveler.” Referred to the Literature Committee. **Referred to the Literature Committee.**

5. 2017-8: Create Virtual Meeting Committee—Complete

6. 2017-10: Prescription Medication References—Passed

Propose change on p. 13 of BRB from “refrain from all prescription medication use” to “refrain from all prescription medication misuse.” **Referred to the Literature Committee.**

7. 2017-13: Use of the term “Closed.” — Complete

Propose that the first statement in the Laundry List read as: “These are characteristics we seem to have in common due to being brought up in an alcoholic or otherwise dysfunctional household.” **Referred to the Literature Committee.**

8. 2017-15: Laundry List Rewording—Passed

9. Publish the results of motions that are made and passed at Board working sessions outside of the monthly TC. *This is being done in the Agenda and the Minutes of the Monthly TC.*

L. Guest Comments:

1. ACA Teen

- **Marty LA:** Appreciate the tremendous amounts of work done. He would like to see a broadening our focus to Chapter 18 in the BRB: *ACA Teen*. There could be more emphasis on this because of things such as addictive devices and prevention so that kids coming up don't have to go through the adult recovery.
- **Mary Jo L.:** This is on our radar, thank you for bringing it up. This is a part of our BRB, and it is something we do not want to forget. ACA came from a group of Alateens.
- **David McB:** Individual trustees are looking into this with therapists on a continuing basis.
- **Rosalie:** While active in Alanon she became active with Alateen. Her experience is that they are not that focused. Some are ready and most are not. It is not that we shouldn't put our energy into this, but we have to remember they are not finished products yet: frontal cortex not fully developed. Their focus is not the same as ours.
- **Thierry:** The reality is that recovery is for each one of us individually. That is how we heal the world. I am a parent with two older children, and they need healing, but the recovery for the next generation for me involves my own recovery first.
- **Jim R.** A group in Huntington, Long Island, NY has an ACA Teen group. Check their website for information about how they are doing things.

2. **Bill D.** asked Marty if he was one of the authors of our Identity Papers. He acknowledged his involvement and was thanked. Also asked for archive material.
3. **Bonnie K-M:** Have the social media people connected with any of the people involved with the 11th Tradition work. Bill asked that she attend the next meeting so that they could be informed of the work of that group.
4. **Matt K.** On the subject of forming regions, many Intergroups do not even have their own officer posts filled, and they think they aren't ready to discuss forming a region. Matt's experience after a year is that by talking among intergroups about regions, the energy grows. Not only for the creation of a region, but the Intergroup, itself, becomes energized.
5. **Access to meeting contact information for Intergroups and Regions.**
 - **Rosalie:** My Intergroup has made an amazing recovery from serious communication problems. Previously there was either not enough communication or communication that made people feel bad. In addition, the mission of the Intergroup was not made clear. In less than 2 years we have mostly overcome these problems, but not 100%. The biggest hurdle is getting the contact information to get in touch with people.

The Intergroup needs to get emails and phone numbers to connect with meetings that aren't using our services. Looking through the meeting lists, there are not always phone numbers,

names or emails. Sometimes all we have are addresses for the location the meeting is held. Is there some way to adjust the registration form to take care of this problem?

- **Mary Jo L.:** We are aware of the deficiencies and are looking into it for the new website.
- **Carole C.:** I have been pushing for the Regions and Intergroups to get access to the other part of the registration that is not available online. We need information that the general public does not have access to. This is part of building a service network that we legitimately have a need for.
- **David McB:** We have been working hard with the DB committee to rebuild this information so it will be helpful to us.
- **Bill D.** Being in MPS we get a lot of requests for information. The information on our website is one thing, it is what people give us permission to publish. If we are going to allow access to backend information, we have to have some sort of password protection so that those that should not be privy to that information cannot get it.
- **Mary Jo L.:** This conversation can be continued on the Intergroup Slack Channel.
- **Bonnie K-M:** There is a precedent in the 2012 OPPM for Intergroups to request mailing labels in their areas. I think this could be extrapolated so that the Intergroup can access the non-published information.
- **Laura L.:** If the question is having the correct information for meetings, putting the instructions for this into information passed along by service sponsors might help. We could also have a registrar position.

6. Predatory Behavior

- **Josh W.:** Some months back we got complaints at our Washington DC Intergroup about behavior of a male member towards female members. A subcommittee was created by the Intergroup to investigate what could be done about this while remaining within the traditions. We have been meeting since last September. We are calling our committee the *Predatory Behavior Committee* because the behavior went beyond what has been called *13th Stepping*. There is not much available ACA literature on this topic.

A literature survey across 12 Step fellowships was done. The conclusion is that 13th Stepping involves more than just sexual predators. There are also financial and other types of predators. The Intergroup has taken some actions such as delisting meetings and writing a letter to WSO about the problem. We also talked to the Lonestar Intergroup who had similar experiences, and with Bonnie from the Intergroup subcommittee.

I am raising this now because this is an issue that is affecting more than just a couple of meetings or intergroups. This affects the fellowship more broadly. The way this has been dealt with in our area has been with informal networks of women looking out for each other, thus putting the onus for safety on potential victims and keeping the problem underground.

I am bringing this to a fellowship discussion. How is this affecting us? How are we dealing

with this? Could we develop a tool kit for use in the fellowship? The first step is to talk about this.

- **Pat H.** We have a member who comes in and announces they are attending to find people to date. The Intergroup is conflicted between the need of a person to be at a meeting and the need of people to be safe. Would like to see a trifold on this matter.
- **Carole C.** would like to get together with Josh at the ABC to get some literature going on this.
- **Laura L.** Region 2 has put together some information that could possibly be shared. They have identified sexual, financial, and spiritual predation.
- **Rosalee:** Our Intergroup had a very serious situation up here that Region 2 helped us deal with. We need to stop worrying about the predator. The damage this one person has done has been incalculable. The person we dealt with was preying on other 12 Step groups across the area as well. The effects are extremely damaging, especially for the newcomers. Most of us came out of our childhoods not knowing how to protect ourselves. As newcomers we don't learn this right away, and are easy prey.
- **Miles C.** AA came across this problem. Informed districts reps about what was happening and each meeting had three older members who monitored the situation and stopped the predators when they saw them moving in on someone.
- **Bonnie K-M:** Let's discuss this on the Intergroup forum on Slack so as to have a more focused idea of what to talk about at the ABC.
- **Terry:** Remember two words—"adult" and "group autonomy."
- **Bill D.** WSO has taken action on the report sent to us by Josh. The MPS Committee has sent a notice to the person, and they have 7 days to respond. They will be delisted during the review and if there is no response in 14 days, they are permanently delisted.
- **David McB:** If a delisted meeting pops up during change in our website, it is a glitch in our software and we will fix it.
- **John S.** We put some information in our closing about watching boundaries. John was invited to Slack by sending info to chair@adultchildren.org
- **Josh:** Asked if members of his local Intergroup could be invited to the Slack channel and was told they could be as it is an open forum on Intergroup issues.

We are very grateful for all those present for your input today. We got a lot accomplished with your help.

M. Motion to close the meeting: Bill D.

Second: Carole C.

Decision: Motion passes unanimously.

The meeting was closed with the ACA Serenity Prayer.

Announcements: The next ACA WSO Board Teleconference is scheduled for May 12, 2018 at 2:00 p.m. Eastern time