



The Volunteer Resource Committee (VRC) Est. Feb 2022
Member of the Policy and Structure Collaboration Committee
Board Teleconference Report, July 2022

Interim Chair: Jim R Co-Chair: Laura L

Secretary: Brad H

Members: Amber D, Bonnie K, Carole C, Charlie H, Dove, Jasmina T,
Kelle J, Rich R

July 9, 2022

Statement of Purpose

The Purpose of the Volunteer Resources Committee (VRC) is to:

- a. provide guidance and support for the volunteers of WSO, such as developing welcoming and educational materials, and healthy communication and leadership workshops,
- b. be a resource for WSO committees with volunteer needs, and
- c. promote emotional sobriety and healthy functioning in WSO committees.

Note: This Statement is being brought before the P&S Collaboration Committee.

Recent Activity, of Note

Statement of Purpose

A Statement of Purpose was fashioned over a couple of our semi-monthly meetings. As we have learned, the current practice for adopting or editing these statements is to bring them to the corresponding 'umbrella' group – in this case, the Policy and Structure Collaboration Committee.

What's more, the P&S CC is authorized to utilize their Slack channel for fashioning and adopting motions. This procedure was attempted by the Ballot Prep Committee, though, beyond a 'second' to the motion to adopt a revised Statement of Purpose, there was no discussion over the subsequent weeks. The Collaboration Committee presently is not so collaborative.

Answering Enquiries

Our attention was drawn to communications received by way of the **Service in ACA (Volunteer)** form, which is found at acawso.org. The VRC was asked to begin responding to enquiries from the website form. There was some uncertainty as to how the form functioned, and rather than jump into the request, we explored how the online form worked.

We discovered, first off, that the form also responds to members looking for information about starting a meeting, an Intergroup or Region, in addition to those looking to volunteer on a WSO committee.

If someone is looking to work on a committee, they are offered a list of committees to choose from. There is also a suggestion to find more info at acawso.org. There are just over 20 committees listed.

If you are interested in being a member of this Committee, please email us at vrcc@acawso.org.

For more information and records of prior practices, go to: <https://acawso.org/category/ballot-prep/>

Upon submission, each committee gets an email notification directly. The email lists the responses submitted on the form – the member’s email address, a bit of background and the committees of interest. It appears that at least one committee must be chosen in order to submit the form.

All the enquiries are automatically sorted and sent to the right committee. Some clarity is needed as to which submissions the Volunteer Resources Committee would be asked to address. It may just be those related to the Member Services Committee, which has been on pause. Since the Members Services Committee is undergoing a reboot meeting the last Saturday in July, the process may change.

We noted that when the Nominating Committee receives a request, they respond by describing their unique additional application process. The Literature Committee has a standard reply, due to the volume of interested members. Their response clearly outlines the various facets of the Literature Committee, offering additional information. If the submitter wants to continue, they are referred to an additional Volunteer Interest Form.

The suggestion has been raised that the **Service in ACA (Volunteer)** form be reviewed and remodeled, perhaps joining with the creator/maintainer to better understand how it works. Another idea was to stream all the enquiries to a single email to be sorted and responded to.

We also question VRC’s supposed role of populating the various committees with volunteers. We adhere to the principle of attraction rather than promotion and that groups, including committee groups should be self-supporting.

We will continue to explore these ideas as we become established. We see that this discussion is centered on the new-to-WSO volunteer and wonder how we are positioning this committee to support veteran volunteers. And how might these issues be reflected in the original document we began to draft before the ABC.

Welcoming Document

Our initial task at inception was to develop a document that could both welcome a volunteer and direct them to resources and service opportunities.

Between the ABC and the communication request pulling focus, and committee members on personal trajectories – document development has slowed. The material is still in place and we will resume developing the material.

For The Month Ahead

The work ahead is 2 pronged at the moment.

- We will decipher what needs to be done with the Service in ACA (Volunteer) form, in discussion with the IT members who created the system.
- We will return to our initial document to develop and edit.

Not every member needs to be involved with both efforts. They can choose their service.

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