ABC AWC Committee Minutes

September 2, 2023 **10:30 ET US**

Attendee**:** Alisa A, Brian P, Kelle J, Karen S, Josh W, Erin, Carmen B, Mary Jo, Norm, Marcus H

1. **Serenity Prayer**
2. **Readings**

   A. Commitment to service

I perform service so that my program will grow and be available for myself, and through those efforts others may benefit. I perform service and practice my recovery: by affirming that the true power of our program rests in the membership meetings and is

expressed through our Higher Power and through our group conscience; by placing principles before personalities; by keeping myself fit for service by working my recovery as a member of the program; by remaining willing to forgive myself and others for not doing it perfectly;

   B. Concept I

The final responsibility and the ultimate authority for ACA World Services should always reside in the collective conscience of our whole fellowship.

Group Conscience

- Limit comments to 1 minute 30 seconds
- Please only 1 comment per item
- Request volunteer to act as timer

Review Agenda

Business Agenda

Josh made a request to see the individual responses to the survey. Josh made a request to discuss whether motions can be processed at the QDM. He requested that we look at the original motion that was passed and look at the intention for the motion. Kelle wanted clarification about how the agenda is set. Brian stated that whether the QDM can have motions should be addressed at the ABC. There was a request to add the question of motions at the QDM to todays agenda. Mary Jo stated that it does not hurt to add the topic of motions at the QDM to the agenda. Brian stated he does not have an issue with talking about it at the end.

The literature and development subcommittee of literature wishes to bring an important topic to the next quarterly:

> The topic is open literature policy and other 12 step literature being used in meeting. This also speaks to confusion around tradition four and how we cooperate with all other 12 step programs. This topic has brought questions to different areas of service and meetings.

Erin D came to discuss this topic. She reported that the open literature policy is outdated. Before the committee makes changes, they would like to get input from delegates. This is a subcommittee/working group of literature. This committee is a small group and they don't want to move forward without input.

Kelle noted that the literature subcommittee would put together a presentation and this committee would block off a certain amount of time. She also noted that if they are putting together some specific presentation that asked a specific question maybe they would want voting from delegates.

Survey reviewed:

Brian listed delegates first priority: literature ranks highly with 5 people. Name change presentation, 3 people. Charter, 3 people that said we should talk more about it. 2 people wanted to discuss motions and 2 people delegate QDM.

Brian listed second priority which was volunteers 4 people, name change 2 people, wso board 2 people, charter 1 people, floor motions 1 person, training chairs 1 person

Brian noted that some people were not as comfortable speaking up. Reasons people gave for not speaking up included confusion, some delegates dominate, others had already made the same point. 1 person noted that English was not their first language

Delegates found name change was the most useful followed by board update then BIPOC minority opinion.

Which documents did delegates find useful-links was helpful and the binder was helpful.

Josh W had a concern about sample size. Some of these topics can be combined.

Literature question part 2

Kelle cautioned against spending too much time on the literature presentation. Focus more on larger literature policy decisions.

Erin publishing would likely be the bigger topic. She noted that literature is what fuels the fellowship financially.

Mary Jo I suggest that this literature policy request be just an opening of discussion. Can be rolled into a subset of the literature discussion.

Josh W I don't feel like this is a pressing issue. We should look at what people put into open responses in regards to literature.

Marcus I feel this is the type of thing that needs to be brought forward in this manner. He had questions about this. It is an important thing.

Carmen agreed that the literature topic is a good now especially to get feedback before decisions are made because it's a topic that could affect multiple different meetings. She stated that it should be a part of a larger literature conversation. She requested to have the individual responses on the survey in order to understand what people meant when they said literature was their first priority.

Literature issues: what literature is being worked on, program literature printing, environmental concerns, how to get books to other countries.

Alisa noted that in Russia they had a huge conversation about licensing. It is her high priority.

Norm It is a conversation that can be started. I like that they are inviting questions. I like that process.

New Delegates:

Norm is a first year delegate. He gets lost at times.

Josh W noted the larger issue is the experience of new delegates have may be different than more seasoned delegates. New vs seasoned delegates may have different priorities.

Kelle its important to get feedback from new delegates. She cautioned against focusing primary on the new delegates.

Brian Name change has gotten a lot of interest. Brad is going to talk with the data analysis group.

Norm there is a synergistic effect of how we deal with issues. New delegates can get lost.

Kelle asked how tradition 2 is brought into the committee. She finds that you have to be a part of some of the committees to learn how we operate. It isn't the same as the OPPM.

Alisa she is a delegate from the Russian speaking service committee.

Mary Jo we don't have a delegate education sub committee. The Delegate slack channel should be a place for education but it goes off in other places that are not always helpful. Delegates may not read information before head. The issue with floor motions is time. How do we process for motions in a 4 hour meeting?

Brain summarized that we potential topics including literature, name change, Floor motions at the QDM.

Thursday Subcommittee:

It was noted that the initial agenda is developed during weekly Thursday meeting. So far it has been the chairs and Mary Jo. It is functioning like a subcommittee.

Josh may be interested in joining on Thursdays. He also suggested that we communicate the sub group meeting times on the delegates channel.

Kelle would be interested but Thursday is not good for her.

Mary Jo agrees that it may be time to make some changes to the Thursday meetings.

Volunteers for the subgroup Norm, Mary Jo, Kelle, Marcus, Carmen, Brian, Josh.

Norm agreed to be parliamentarian.