WSC 2012 Final Record

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Sunday, 29 April

**FIRST THINGS FIRST – THE 31ST WORLD SERVICE CONFERENCE**

*Time 9:01 am – 10:12 am*

*Session led by Ron M (World Board Chair)*

Ron M (WB Chair) called the 2012 WSC to order with a one-minute moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer. A video was shown followed by the readings, announcements, and statistics about the makeup of this WSC.

The delegates from Iran, Tejas Bluebonnet, Brazil, Nepal, and Sweden shared briefly about their communities. This was followed by a countdown of the number of conferences attended by participants.

The session was closed with the Serenity Prayer in 23 languages:

- Arabic
- Danish
- English
- Farsi
- Filipino
- Finnish
- French
- Gaelic
- German
- Greek
- Hebrew
- Italian
- Japanese
- Lithuanian
- Manipuri
- Maori
- Nepalese
- Norwegian
- Polish
- Portuguese
- Russian
- Spanish
- Swedish

**INSPIRED BY OUR PRIMARY PURPOSE: WSC 2012**

*11:00 am – 12:25 pm*

*Session led by Mary B (WB) and Piet de B (WB)*

This community-building session modeled the small group discussion process that will be used throughout the WSC week. Participants introduced themselves to one another in small groups and each shared one hope and one fear they had about serving at the WSC. Some of the tables shared their hopes and fears with the group as a whole.

Staff took pictures of each table to be posted later in the day.

**Small Group Discussion/Individual Writing**

Each small group discussed how the spiritual principles contained in the Fifth Tradition influenced their service, and then participants spent 15 minutes writing about how one of these principles will inspire their service efforts during the WSC.

**NAVIGATING THE WSC: ORIENTATION**

*2:05 pm – 3:27 pm*

*Session led by Ron B (WB V-Chair) and Valerie D (Human Resource Panel)*

The third session began with a video from WCNA. The session included an overview of the week’s sessions and a discussion of the election and Region/Board/Zone (RBZ) recommendation processes. Ron B (WB V-Chair) began the session with a series of announcements and then introduced the Human Resource Panel (HRP) and the translators. He described the room set-up, welcoming participants to “the risers,” section of the room (tables on risers), and referred to the other half of the room, set up with round tables as “the rounds.” Ron outlined conference logistics including how to be recognized during business sessions; support available at the staff table, onsite office, and hospitality desk; hotel facilities and recovery meeting spaces; and the process for completing the daily evaluation forms and the expense form.
Ron went over the highlights of the week’s schedule and each day’s deadlines. He explained that many new things were being tried at this conference and encouraged everybody to use the evaluation sheets to give input about the changes. He also mentioned that there would be a session at the end of the conference to talk about what went well and what did not, and to share ideas for future conferences.

**Elections Discussion**

Ron introduced the elections with some background:

- The Board has never been filled since its inception in 1998, and the conference has repeatedly expressed its frustration with this.
- At WSC 2010 participants conveyed support for the HRP’s process, but for the second cycle in a row, only one new board member was seated.
- The delegate election survey revealed that delegates overwhelmingly support the nominations process, but this is not reflected in their voting patterns.
- Five standing board members were reseated at WSC 2010, and three seats were left vacant.
- There are eleven vacant seats on the World Board at this WSC.
- The World Board hopes to elect a full board and bring on new members.

Ron reviewed the Board’s process for selecting candidates to recommend for nomination, as was promised at the last WSC. First the skills, demographics, perspectives, and experience that may be missing on the Board are discussed, and then potential candidates who meet these needs are considered. The qualities, experience, skill sets, and demographics for this election were identified as:

- Extensive local service experience
- Strong business or management background
- Long term WSC/NAWS experience (personal historical experience)
- Diversity of race, ethnicity, language, and experience in emerging communities
- Younger people
- Women

Ron also informed the WSC that Piet de B was resigning from the Board for personal reasons after WSC 2012.

Ron introduced Valerie D (HRP), who began by offering details on voting patterns at WSC 2008 and 2010:

- Participants tend to vote for the number of vacant seats or fewer.
- That tendency increases as the number of vacant seats increases.
- Some nominees received 50% support, but not the required 60% to be seated.
- If participants had voted for at least the number of vacant seats, two more board members in 2008 and three more in 2010 would have been elected.

Valerie presented the four voting options that affect the outcome of elections:

1. Vote for a nominee.
2. Vote against a nominee by not voting for them.
3. Vote against all of the nominees by returning a blank ballot.
4. Refrain from returning a ballot, thus reducing the total number needed to seat any nominees.

Valerie offered two final thoughts on the nominations and elections processes:

- If conference participants are interested in seating a full board, they are encouraged to cast a vote for no fewer than eleven World Board nominees.
All nominees have been vetted through the HRP process and have the HRP’s highest confidence.

Valerie provided background on the RBZ process, covering the following points:

- The process was approved at WSC 2006 and first used at WSC 2008.
- The process is a way for regions, the World Board, and zones to forward individuals to the HRP process to be considered for nomination.
- The process helps the HRP identify the best nominees.
- The HRP invitation to forward potential nominees goes out in early September and the RBZ process closes in late October, making it difficult for some potential nominees and some regions and zones to participate due to their schedules.
- The recommendation process utilized by the regions, the Board, and the zones is inconsistent.
- Multiple RBZ recommendations, or no recommendations, do not necessarily mean a candidate is more, or less, suited for a position, or has more, or less, local support.
- All candidates must go through the HRP process in order to be on the WSC ballot.

Valerie explained that the rationale forms submitted with each RBZ candidate contained a lot of useful information, but they were not released because the regions, board, and zones were not given any notice that that might be done. In addition, the HRP plans to revise the questionnaire that local committees fill out for candidates without an RBZ nomination, so it also was not released. The HRP intends to release both of these resources as part of the election process for WSC 2014.

Questions & Answers

Valerie invited questions, asking participants to focus on the RBZ process during this session. Participants asked questions about:

- The process for getting onto a workgroup and what the HRP’s involvement is in assigning workgroup members.
- What constitutes “young” demographically
- Clarifications on some of the numbers presented, and the election process itself.
- Variations in the different processes used by the regions, board, and zones that submit recommendations.
- Potentially changing the size of the World Board.

In response to questions, Ron and Valerie offered the following information:

- The HRP is not involved in selecting workgroup members. The World Board selects workgroup members, and encourages interested members to contact the Board. Members are reminded to update their World Pool Information Forms.
- Workgroup needs are announced at every conference and the information is included in NAWS News.
- The Board hopes to have a range of ages in its members to ensure different perspectives and represent the overall fellowship.
- In the last cycle there were eleven nominees that had been forwarded to the HRP process from regions, nine from the World Board, and six from zones.
- Candidate Profile Reports (CPRs) are translated into Spanish, and other language communities are assisted by their translators.
• The Board has consensus on all Board recommendations forwarded through the RBZ process.
• The HRP continues to examine the RBZ process and look for ways to improve it. Suggestions are welcome.
• There are no plans to change the size of the Board.
• If more than eleven candidates achieve the required percentage of votes then the eleven with the highest number of votes will be elected.

WSC 2012 BUSINESS SESSIONS PROCESS

4:01 pm – 5:47 pm
Session led by Mark H (WB) and Jack H (WSC Cofacilitator)

Also participating in the session were Marc G (WSC CF) and Don Cameron (WSC Parliamentarian).

Explanation of Business Sessions

Jack H (WSC CF) began by reviewing the different types of sessions at this conference. Motions, resolutions, service system straw polls, and any proposals are discussed during discussion sessions before they are introduced into formal business. Motions are grouped by topic. Straw polls (non-binding polls intended to get a sense of the body on an issue) are taken after a motion, resolution, or proposal has been spoken to by its maker, and then again after the conference discusses the motion, resolution, or proposal. The outcome of straw polls will be announced by the cofacilitator. The service system straw polls will be taken by a standing vote, although generally straw polls are by voice. The possibility of using a show of hands or cards was also mentioned. There is no such thing as a roll call straw poll.

The formal business session is intended to formalize the decisions on motions that have already been discussed in the pre-business discussion sessions.

Jack also explained who is able to vote, or participate in straw polls, and when:
• Only regional delegates vote on old business items. The World Board does not.
• In new business there is one vote for each conference participant, including each World Board member.
• Alternate delegates may only speak during business sessions if their delegate is off the floor.

Jack reviewed the various items to be voted on:
• Five CAR motions
• A motion to approve the WSC 2010 record
• A motion to adopt the decision-making process in old business.
• Eight resolutions, which are agreements in principle. Resolutions are a type of motion; therefore, they will be discussed in the (old business) discussion session and voted on during formal business.
• Nine service system straw polls. These will be taken during the old business discussion session.
• Five regional proposals presented in the CAR that will be dealt with by straw poll in the old business discussion session and if supported they may be brought up again during the Moving Forward session to gather consensus about how to proceed with the proposal.

Jack went over the rules governing the use of participants’ cards to be recognized and to interject a question related to the process.
Jack explained that in roll calls, participants may choose to not affect the decision at all by saying “present.” This means that they will be identified as present for the vote, but they will not be counted in the vote total for that motion, so will not affect the percentages required in a vote. This differs from an abstention, which is effectively counted as non-support of the motion or a “no” vote.

Mark H (WB) addressed the regional proposals experiment by first tracking the evolution to CBDM at the WSC, including Resolution A and the introduction of discussion sessions prior to formal business sessions. He focused on the change from a WSC composed entirely of business sessions, to one that is discussion based and more accessible to all participants.

Mark summarized the process for this WSC. The first step will be to consider Motion 7 that will adopt the process of this experiment for WSC 2012 only. The experiment covers main motions and amendments. The only motions that would be made in old business would be:

- CAR motions, including resolutions.
- A motion to approve the minutes from WSC 2010.
- Motion 7, to try the new procedure described in the handout conference participants received in their notebooks for WSC 2012 only.

Proposed changes to motions, resolutions, and proposals would be handled in the pre-business discussion session. These changes must be submitted before the old business deadline of 6:00 pm Sunday as “an idea for changing a motion, resolution, or proposal.” They will be discussed and decided on in the pre-business discussion session.

In the new business session, the only motions that will be made are those that pertain to CAT material: motions to approve the project plans and the budget. Regional seating and the WSC decision-making processes will be straw polled on Saturday as part of the WSC Processes session.

Mark reviewed the process for the discussion sessions that precede both old and new business:

1. The motion, resolution, or proposal is introduced and straw polled.
2. If an idea for changing a motion, resolution, or proposal is suggested, a straw poll is taken to gauge initial support of the idea.
3. The idea for change is discussed.
4. The idea for changing a motion, resolution, or proposal is straw polled again.
5. The motion, resolution, or proposal is discussed, with any supported changes incorporated. After discussion, a final straw poll is taken.

After the discussion session, motions and resolutions will be introduced into business with any changes incorporated.

Proposals will not be dealt with during formal business sessions. The final straw poll during discussion of a proposal will indicate the level of conference support for the proposal. Proposals with broad conference support may be brought up again during the Moving Forward session on Saturday if it's necessary to gain clarity on how to proceed with the proposal.

Don Cameron (WSC Parliamentarian) shared some of his experience with the business sessions he has attended since 1989, and some of the challenges participants encountered that CBDM is intended to alleviate. Everyone has a chance to talk in the discussion session and straw polls give participants a sense of the amount of conference support. He briefly discussed ways in which this conference's changes are an evolution. What is being
proposed is not that radical a change from previous conferences. The conference is moving gradually in the right direction.

**Questions & Answers**

In response to several questions, the facilitators clarified the process, including explaining that some proposals could lead to changes that are adopted by consensus, while others might require a more formal process such as inclusion in the next CAR, or the creation of a project plan. Additional clarification was offered regarding the percentages required for the different motions and resolutions, including that resolutions would require a simple majority.

### Monday, 30 April

**Delegate Survey Results and Service System**

9:05 am – 11:09 am  
Session led by Ron H (WB) and Muk H-D (WB)

Muk H-D (WB) and Ron H (WB) began the session explaining the focus would be on the survey delegates completed before the conference and the concepts in the Service System Proposals.

Muk provided an overview of the data from the delegate survey focusing on the following questions:

- In response to the question of how effectively RSCs function, 17% said it was outstanding, and 52% thought it was satisfactory. Muk invited participants to celebrate the fact that almost two-thirds of us believe our RSCs are okay. And then 31% of respondents said their RSC needs improvement,

- To the question “How effectively do you think the areas in the region function?,” half answered “satisfactory,” 42% think the areas need improvement, and 7% felt the areas function in an “outstanding” way. Muk pointed out that how we increase this percentage in the cycles ahead was part of the aim of the session.

![Survey Results Chart]

- Regarding training, half of the responses indicated there is some RCM training within their regions, and only half of these reported it was effective. Underutilization was offered as the primary reason for this.

Another survey question was: “Which of the five foundational principles do you feel your RSC is strongest in realizing/needs the most help?” Muk highlighted that the chart was fairly evenly divided between the five principles. She stated that the most useful comment to her was that the questions on the survey were very difficult because the delegates didn’t understand what was being asked. She concluded that various delegates came to the
questions with different perspectives on what the survey was trying to ask—whether the principles were being utilized, whether the principles and the Service System Project itself were appropriate, or how well the principles are utilized within the region compared to each other. Some members might object to the Service System Project and may have answered based on that objection.

Muk went back to the question “Do you feel your role is defined as an RD or RDA?” 87% of delegates feel their role is well-defined. She explained that some delegates have specific guidelines to define this role, while others feel their role is defined by their experience, or by the training and mentoring they have received. She encouraged participants to review the text of the responses, not just the graph, for more detail.

Muk went on to review the material contained in the regional reports, sharing the following highlights on successes garnered from her review of the material:

- At least 90% of the delegates reported that recent conventions had been fiscally profitable, which contradicted her understanding.
- Over 50% of the regions had RD teams facilitating workshops within the region.
- At least 30% reported that they have seen growth within their regions.
- 20% are using new technological tools and resources for communication.
- 10% discussed trying to do more to serve the rural parts of the region.
- 10% are doing fellowship development.
- 10% are using CBDM.
- 10% are active in translations.
- 5% are implementing some aspects of the Service System Proposals.
- 5% are doing notably strong public relations work, including Guatemala.

Challenges encountered included:

- 10% are dealing with theft of significant amounts of money.
- About 15% are dealing with serious internal stress, calling it either disunity or dysfunction, some calling it hostility and resentment.
- 33% are dealing with funding problems.
- 30% have a serious need for trusted servants.
- Outside of the US, regions contribute heavily to zonal forums, while most regions within the US contribute small amounts to zonal forums.
- 25% reported that they gather a regional conscience from group tallies. 25% gather at workshops or assemblies. 5% of RDs are asked to vote their own conscience. Less than 5% are asked to vote on the CAR based on a tally of individual member’s votes.

Ron H moved on to a discussion of the Service System Proposals. He clarified that this discussion was separate from the discussion that would happen in the pre-business session about the resolutions and straw polls, and focused on a broader dialog about our service system. It’s harder to roll up a discussion than it is to roll up a vote, said Ron, and we’re going to try to do some of that here. Examples of the kinds of issues that we’ve heard have come up are:

- What to do about regional service offices and conventions in the event of regional reunification?
- Do the proposals help or hinder rural groups? Ron said he believes this is a whole new hope for rural groups, that some of them may feel better served.
- The concern that the proposed service system may disenfranchise groups from the decision-making process. I would really like for us to talk that one through, said Ron. Why is it seen that way? It’s certainly not the intention.
- The perception that a layer is being added to the service system.

Ron expressed the hope that the session would clearly define any concerns and provide the opportunity to answer some of them.

Both Muk and Ron stressed how the ideas in the proposals are intended to be enhancements that are implemented incrementally and whose change may not be as radical as they first seem, though it may be hard for long-established service bodies and committees to see.

Ron and Muk opened the floor for participants to share their experience, questions, and concerns regarding ideas in the proposals. One participant shared experience with implementing some of the ideas locally, and another talked about challenges such as currently low participation and concerns about whether the proposals can address these. Ron and Muk stressed the importance of project-based service and the hope that this could revitalize passion and creativity.

One delegate said he thought the discussion needed more time on the agenda than just this session, and shared his perception that there is a disconnect between NAWS and NA groups caused by the restructuring of the 1990s, and that the proposals themselves are being “sold” to the fellowship. In response, Ron H discussed the role of leaders in NA, saying that it is impossible to hear a single unified voice from 58,000 groups, so as leaders, the Board listens to and contemplates the experience of those groups and then offers proposals for consideration based on that input.

Another delegate shared her perspective that change comes through a process of trial and error, and that she believes that the areas in her region have a strong identity and don’t want to join with other areas. She added that the number of seats at the WSC should not be reduced because we shouldn’t limit the number of people who can experience the magic of the WSC.

Several delegates shared how they are utilizing the project ideas. One questioned whether the “inverted pyramid” was being changed to a fishbone, and Ron assured the conference that the SSP will never change the authority of NA groups. Some shared about the challenges involved with understanding the proposals, translating them, and communicating the ideas from them to the fellowship. Ron shared about the importance of processes such as planning and trusted servant development in a new service system, and that these could be clearly documented and implemented by members.

One delegate asked that the Board respond to the perception that the proposals violate the Traditions and Concepts. Ron responded that the project served to further introduce the Concepts to how we do service, and was in harmony with the Traditions. The understanding of how a group conscience is formed, Ron explained, is central to this issue—whether you see group conscience as something that can only happen in an NA recovery group or whether a body like the one in this room can have a sort of consolidated conscience. Ron closed the session by again stating that part of the Board’s role is to offer proposals for the fellowship to consider and make decisions on, even if those decisions are “No.”
OLD BUSINESS DISCUSSION
11:37 am (30 April) – 12:55 am (1 May)
Session led by Jack H (WSC CF) and Marc G (WSC CF)

Jack H (WSC CF) opened the session by introducing Marc G (WSC CF) and Don Cameron (WSC Parliamentarian). Jack provided an overview of what would be discussed in this session:

- The proposed exceptions to the WSC Rules of Order
- Adopting the conference record for 2010
- The CAR motions, resolutions, and proposals
- The Service System straw polls, although these may be taken later

He explained that for the discussion session each motion and its intent would be read by the cofacilitator, the maker would speak to the motion, and then it would be straw polled. The floor would then be open for discussion, with time being limited to three minutes per participant. At that point any ideas to change the motion would be discussed and then straw polled. If there is support for an idea for changing the motion, the motion will then be discussed as changed. Following discussion, the motion would again be straw polled.

Jack clarified the process for being recognized, who is able to speak during the session, the terms used for the results of straw polls, and the different types of votes. He also stated that any participants who wished to be recorded as “present, not voting” and not affect the percentages required for a motion to be adopted would be able to do so during any roll call votes.

Roll call #1 was conducted [See Appendix A] by Marc G (WSC CF), showing 127 participants present (112 regions), 75 represents a 2/3 majority, 57 represents a simple majority.

Motion 7:
To adopt for WSC 2012 only, the following exceptions to the WSC Rules of Order:

Formal Old Business Session
A. Main motions (GWSNA, page 57G) or amendments (GWSNA, page 57B) to main motions will be limited to the following:
   - CAR motions, including resolutions
   - A motion “To approve the minutes from WSC 2010”.
   - This motion “To adopt for WSC 2012 only, the following exceptions to the WSC Rules of Order:”

B. Changes to motions, resolutions, and proposals will be handled in the discussion portion of the old business session.
   - Proposed changes to motions, resolutions, and proposals should be submitted on a proposal form by the old business deadline at 6 pm Sunday (or if the last session Sunday runs long, a half hour after that session).
   - Changes that would previously have been addressed by making a formal amendment will be submitted by the deadline as “an idea for changing a motion, resolution, or proposal.”

Formal New Business Session
A. Main motions (GWSNA, page 57G) or amendments (GWSNA, page 57B) to main motions will be limited to the following:
o Motions to pass the project plans

o A motion to approve the 2012-2014 NAWS budget

B. Any other new business will be treated as a proposal rather than a motion:

o New business proposals, including proposed changes to motions, must be submitted on a proposal form by the new business deadline, 6 pm Wednesday night.

Intent: To continue our evolution towards a consensus based conference.

Maker: World Board

Initial straw poll: Strong support.

Discussion centered on whether the experiment would become permanent, whether the motion should be divided into old and new business, and clarification on the process. A straw poll to divide the motion showed weak opposition to doing so.

Final straw poll: Strong support.

**Motion 6:**

To approve the 2010 World Service Conference minutes.

Maker: World Board

Initial straw poll: Strong support

Two objections were voiced. When asked why they objected, one delegate explained that he was requested not to approve the minutes by one of the areas within his region, and the other said that the minutes say a straw poll for not using motions at WSC 2012 was unanimously supported and he believes there was opposition.

Final straw poll: Strong support.

**Motion 1:**

To approve the book *Living Clean: The Journey Continues* contained in Addendum A.

Intent: To have a book on the recovery journey available to our members.

Maker: World Board

Initial straw poll: Unanimous support.

Discussion centered on production issues, translation questions, and general appreciation for the text. It was pointed out that discussion was unnecessary when the straw poll showed unanimous support. A second poll was deemed unnecessary.

**Motion 2:**

To allow the World Board to make non-substantive corrections to Fellowship-approved literature which do not impact the original meaning of the Fellowship-approved text and which fix typographical errors, obsolete references, references to outdated literature, and other similar corrections. The World Board will announce such corrections in advance of publication.

Intent: To allow corrections to literature that do not impact the original meaning of the Fellowship-approved text to be made without necessitating a fellowship-wide vote. Any corrections of this type to be made in Fellowship-approved literature would be announced in advance.
Maker: World Board

*Initial straw poll: Support by standing poll.*

A conference participant asked that Motions 2, 3, and 4 be ruled out of order because the language is vague and there is no timeframe for notification specified. The cofacilitator ruled that the motions were in order.

A straw poll indicated strong support for discussing together the related Proposals F, K, N, and P.

**Proposal F:**

To amend motion 2 as follows: To allow the World Board to make non-substantive corrections to Fellowship-approved literature which do not impact the original meaning of the Fellowship-approved text and which fix typographical errors, obsolete references, and references to outdated literature, and other similar corrections. The World Board will announce such corrections in advance of publication.

Intent: To limit the World Board’s ability to make corrections to Fellowship-approved literature.

Maker: David L (RD Ohio)

*Initial straw poll: Opposition.*

**Proposal K:**

To amend motion 2 as follows: To allow the World Board to make non-substantive corrections to Fellowship-approved literature which do not impact the original meaning of the Fellowship-approved text and which fix typographical errors, obsolete references, references to outdated literature, and other similar corrections. The World Board will distribute the draft changes to RDs for approval 120 days announce such corrections in advance of publication.

Intent: To provide a process for World Board accountability to the fellowship.

Maker: David H (RD Mountaineer)

*Initial straw poll: Opposition.*

**Proposal N:**

To amend motion 2 as follows: We would like to have a 90 day review and input time frame to have the possibility to look for major mistakes.

Intent: As a result of the experiences with sponsorship book and the service pamphlet “Introduction to NA” we want to avoid a repetition.

Maker: Martina B (RD German Speaking)

*Initial straw poll: Opposition.*

**Proposal P:**

To amend motion 2 as follows: To allow the World Board to make non-substantive corrections to Fellowship-approved literature which do not impact the original meaning of the Fellowship-approved text and which fix typographical errors, obsolete references, references to outdated literature, and other similar corrections. The World Board will announce such corrections in advance of publication.
Intent: For clarity purposes and remove any potential doubt from fellowship’s understanding of the World Board’s abilities.

Maker: Dawn E (RD Tejas Bluebonnet)

Initial straw poll: Opposition.

The makers of each proposal spoke to each proposal, and the World Board provided a recommendation after each was read. Discussion of the proposals centered on the non-specific language in the motions and the desire to add a time frame to the announcement of any intended changes.

A straw poll showed support for the idea of a time frame for announcing corrections.

A subsequent straw poll showed support for the time frame being 120 days.

Becky M (NAWS Assistant Executive Director) explained that *The NA Way Magazine* and *NAWS News* are the mechanisms for announcements by the Board, and that an announcement of an impending change is not intended to be anything other than a notification of that change.

Jack clarified the decision-making process, explaining that the straw polls just taken will affect the text of the motion before it is voted on in formal business. Ron M (WB Chair) explained that he is assuming the straw poll for the time frame would affect all three motions.

*Final straw polls: Strong opposition to Proposals F, K, N, and P.*

After further discussion, Motion 2 as changed was straw polled.

**Motion 2:**

To allow the World Board to make non-substantive corrections to Fellowship-approved literature which do not impact the original meaning of the Fellowship-approved text and which fix typographical errors, obsolete references, references to outdated literature, and other similar corrections. The World Board will announce such corrections not less than 120 days in advance of publication.

*Initial straw poll as changed: Strong support*

Motion 2 as changed was discussed. The language “announce” rather than “review period” was discussed and Becky M (NAWS Assistant ED) explained that what we mean by review isn’t defined in the FIPT. In effect, it’s the same thing as the review period called out in GWSNA for the service pamphlets.

Ron M (WB Chair) stated that the Board agreed that the change of adding a 120 day time period was also applicable to Motions 3 and 4.

Jack H asked the body to affirm the final language changes to Motion 2. There were no objections to the language “not less than” being added to Motion 2.

*Final straw poll: Strong support.*

Motion 3 was introduced as changed.

**Motion 3:**

To allow the World Board to bundle, excerpt, and repackage Fellowship-approved literature without changes to the texts themselves. The World Board will announce these actions not less than 120 days in advance of publication.
Intent: This would allow literature or portions of literature to be combined so that members who were interested in a particular topic could more easily access all of the material on that topic in one place.

Maker: World Board

*Initial straw poll: Strong support.*

Brief discussion of Motion 3 centered on the possibility of a negative effect on NAWS’ income stream. Becky M (NAWS Assistant ED) stated that any repackaged literature was intended to be an income generator, but that it had never been done before, so the effects were unknown. A decrease in income would lead to withdrawing the product.

*Final straw poll: Strong support.*

**Motion 4:**

To allow the World Board the ability to create and approve enhanced electronic or digital versions of texts that include supplemental materials or connections to other NA materials. The World Board will announce such enhancements not less than 120 days in advance of publication.

Intent: To allow supplemental material such as sound files, historical images or texts, and hyperlinks to other NA materials, to be included within an electronic or digital version of a text with clear labeling indicating what is Fellowship-approved and the source of any additional material.

*Initial straw poll: Strong support*

**Proposal G:**

To amend motion 4 as follows: To allow the World Board the ability to create and approve enhanced electronic or digital versions of texts that include supplemental materials or connections to other NA materials. The World Board will announce such enhancements in advance of publication.

Intent: To not allow World Board approval of such enhanced electronic or digital versions of Fellowship-approved literature.

Maker: David L (RD Ohio)

*Initial straw poll: Strong opposition.*

**Proposal I:**

To amend Motion 4 as follows: To allow the World Board the ability to create and approve enhanced electronic or digital versions of texts that include supplemental fellowship materials or connections to other NA materials. The World Board will announce such enhancements in advance of publication.

Intent: To clarify that only fellowship materials will be limited.

Maker: David H (RD Mountaineer)

*Initial straw poll: Strong opposition.*

**Proposal Q:**

To amend motion 4. To add to the end of the proposed new language for Article 2, Section 5, of the *Fellowship Intellectual Property Trust* “and obtains Fellowship approval.”
Intent: The language permitting the World Board to create and self-approve enhanced electronic or digital versions of texts that include supplemental materials effectively permits the drafting of new literature by the current (and all future) World Boards. This is especially true of supplemental material not already Fellowship-approved. This amendment ensures that new literature is Fellowship-approved prior to distribution and sale.

Maker: Allen J (RD Chesapeake & Potomac)

Initial straw poll: Strong opposition.

Proposal S:
To amend motion 4 to not include that this is non-fellowship approved literature (in the digital enhancement)

Maker: Kenny B (RD New Jersey)

Initial straw poll: Strong opposition.

Proposal U:
To amend motion 4. Make a project for later approval.

Intent: To have all the ideas consolidated and reviewed before approval so fellowship can give feedback.

Maker: Laura R (RD Costa Rica)

Initial straw poll: Strong opposition.

Proposals G, I, Q, S, and U were read, spoken to by the maker and responded to by the World Board.

Proposals I, S, and U were subsequently withdrawn by their makers.

In response to a question, Ron M (WB Chair) clarified that “other NA materials” could include items such as the NA group logo and hand-written material from the NAWS archives, but not items such as photos of members.

During discussion of Motion 4, Ron clarified that the same process for handling input or objections to enhancements as the one used for service pamphlets would be used. The 120-day time frame would allow for any objections to whether or not enhancements were appropriate to be made. Ron confirmed that even a small minority of objections would be enough to warrant the Board’s attention. It was also clarified that the use of the word “approve” in the motion would not give the Board the ability to create new Fellowship-approved materials.

Final straw poll: Strong support.

Motion 5:
To hold the World Convention of NA every three years, beginning 2018, alternating North American and non-North American locations, as follows and contained in the revised World Convention Map contained in Addendum C.

Intent: Considering the trend of decreasing attendance and a changing global economy, to decrease the frequency of the World Convention of NA, thereby making it a more special event.

Initial straw poll: Strong support.
Proposal H:
To change motion 5 from “every 3 years” to “every 2 ½ years” (with all else pertaining to the motion remaining the same - see example)

NA60 - 2013 Philadelphia
   2015/16 - Central/South America
NA65 - 2018 North America
   2020/21 - Asia\Middle East\Africa
NA70 - 2023 -North America
   2025/26 - Europe
NA75 - 2028 - North America
   2030/31 - Central/South America
NA80 - 2033 - North America

Intent: This fits with the World Board intent of making the WCNA a more significant event by having the event in North America fall in years that are anniversary dates for our fellowship. This would give a year window of flexibility for the international events to take into account weather and off-peak rates keeping the WCNA rates more affordable. It should be noted that this plan and the current WB motion is identical over the next 8 years, the change isn’t until late 2020 or early 2021.

Maker: Pam J (RD San Diego/Imperial)
Initial straw poll: strong opposition.

Proposal V:
To amend motion 5. No change to frequency, keep every two years.

Intent: Every two years is what we want.

Maker: Laura R (RD Costa Rica)

Proposals H and V were read, spoken to by the maker and responded to by the World Board. Proposal V was withdrawn before being straw polled, and both proposals were withdrawn following discussion.

Motion 5 was discussed. It was confirmed that the decision to change the rotation plan made at WSC 2010 does not preclude making the proposed changes in this motion. In response to a question, Anthony E (NAWS ED) explained that a lot has changed in two years—the global economy is changing, the internet is changing the way people make travel plans. We believe the revenue model for WCNA must change.

Final straw poll: Strong support

The session recessed for dinner at 7:27 pm and reconvened at 9:04 pm.

Discussion of Resolutions
Jack asked the body if the following changes could be made to discussion procedures:

- Yellow cards cannot be recognized during discussion except for points of order or points of personal privilege: body did not object.
- Discussion can only be about opposition if there is strong support expressed in an initial straw poll, and about support if strong opposition is expressed: body did not object.
- Limit speaking time to 2 minutes: body did not object.
- Limit queue to six when there is strong opposition or support: there was an objection. Straw poll: strong support.
**Resolution 1:**
Our service efforts will be carried out through a system that includes structure, process, people, and resources.

*Initial straw poll: Support.*

Discussion was limited to one region’s belief that this principle already exists, and the question of whether supporting the resolution would lead to the intended result.

*Final straw poll: Support.*

**Resolution 2:**
The service system is group-focused and includes a local-level body dedicated exclusively to addressing group concerns.

*Straw poll: Support.*

Ron M (WB Chair) agreed for the Board not to speak to each resolution as their recommendations were already in the CAR. There was no other discussion and a second straw poll was deemed unnecessary.

**Resolution 3:**
Training and mentoring of trusted servants are essential functions of the service system.

*Straw poll: Strong support.*

No discussion and no second straw poll.

**Resolution 4:**
Service bodies are purpose- and vision-driven.

*Straw poll: Strong support.*

No discussion and no second straw poll.

**Resolution 5:**
Service bodies work together to utilize planning processes to organize and coordinate their efforts.

*Straw poll: Strong support.*

No discussion and no second straw poll.

**Resolution 6:**
Service bodies make decisions by consensus.

*Initial straw poll: Support.*

Discussion of Resolution 6 detailed the following objections, questions, and comments:

- How does the resolution support the Second Tradition and Second Concept?
- Will there be some training in CBDM offered?
- What is the definition of consensus for the purpose of this resolution, and how can we move towards it if we aren’t clear what it is?
- The resolution was perceived as a mandate and did not allow for group autonomy.

In response Ron M said the Board believes the resolutions are consistent with the concepts and offered to address any specific perceived conflicts with the Traditions or
Concepts. Ron reminded everyone that resolutions are agreements in principle that determine the direction we are moving in, rather than mandating any binding action. It was also pointed out that groups and service bodies currently utilize whatever decision-making system they choose to, regardless of what is in A Guide to Local Services in NA, and that there are service bodies currently using CBDM. How a service body defines consensus or makes decisions is up to that service body.

The cofacilitators straw polled a reworded version of Resolution 6 in an effort to reach consensus: “Service bodies strive to make decisions by consensus.” The reworded version had strong support in the straw poll, but Ron H (WB) raised a strong objection. He said that he thinks the body is sliding away from a grasp of what the resolutions are. These resolutions are only binding on the WB. If this passes it instructs WB to create a model of consensus-based decision making. It does not mean other service bodies must use this model.

Jack explained that the cofacilitators proposed a suggestion to help reach consensus, but in no way were they attempting to sway body in any way or insert opinion.

*Final straw poll on Resolution 6 as printed in the CAR: Support.*

**Resolution 7:**

The service structure includes local service bodies, state/nation/province service bodies, and intermediate bodies if needed. Service bodies follow established geographic boundaries. They are not self-determined, but are formed, based on need, through a collaborative planning process and agreement with other affected service bodies at the next level of service.

*Initial straw poll: Evenly split by standing poll.*

Proposals J, R, and W were read, spoken to by the maker and responded to by the World Board.

**Proposal J:**

To amend Resolution 7 as follows: Resolution 7. The service structure includes local service bodies, state/nation/province service bodies, and intermediate bodies if needed. Service bodies willing to follow established geographic boundaries, they are not self-determined, but are formed, based on need, through a collaborative planning process and agreement with other affected service bodies at the next level of service.

Intent: To remove concerns about “the next level of service” dictating to group, areas and regions what boundary (if any) would be.

Maker: David H (RD Mountaineer)

*Straw poll: Strong opposition.*

**Proposal R:**

To amend Resolution 7. To separate the global level from the local level when considering geographical borders for service bodies.

Intent: We understand there is a problem of too many regions seated in the conference. So, conference size is becoming unmanageable, also we understand NA is growing and more groups, areas and regions are created. At the local level a group should be able to join a neighboring area if this area is more suitable for it, the same as members can join groups where they are.
Maker: Netta K (RD Israel)

*Straw poll: Strong opposition.*

**Proposal W:**
To amend Resolution 7 as follows: Resolution 7. The service structure includes local service bodies, state/nation/province service bodies, and intermediate bodies if needed. Service bodies follow established geographic boundaries. They are not self-determined, but are formed, based on need, through a collaborative planning process and agreement at the next level of service.

Intent: Already corrected in Resolution 8.

Maker: Laura R (RD Costa Rica)

*Straw poll: Strong opposition.*

Marc G (WSC CF) stated that due to the strong opposition to each proposal the queue would be limited to six participants speaking in favor of the proposals for two minutes each. All three proposals were discussed at once.

One participant explained that her region was concerned with the language “next level of service” and had fears that would mean dictating from above. She asked the board whether Proposal J clarified this. In response, Muk H (WB) discussed how a service system is one where the individual parts work together and that we must be willing to collaborate to achieve this. The “next level of service” is a logical place to do this. She also stated that NA does not exist independent of society. There are entities organized along geographic boundaries at both state/national and local levels that affect the lives of addicts, which is important for us to correspond and relate to.

Others questioned why geographic boundaries are necessary at the local level, if they would allow sufficient flexibility, and whether the boundaries found in society are themselves logical.

*Final straw poll of Proposals J, R, and W: Strong opposition.*

*Interim straw poll of Resolution 7: Opposition by standing poll.*

Resolution 7 was discussed further. Marc stated that the queue would not be limited due to there not being strong opposition or support, but that the two-minute time limit would be used. Concerns were again expressed that the resolution violated the principle of autonomy or that changes in regional boundaries would have negative effects. Other participants shared the benefits of being a geographically defined service body, the challenges with not being so, and the need for reasonable exceptions to the arrangement.

*Final straw poll: Evenly split by standing poll.*

When asked, Jack H clarified that “evenly split” means “close to 50/50.”

**Resolution 8:**
State/national/province boundaries are the primary criterion for seating consideration at the World Service Conference.

*Initial straw poll: Evenly split by standing poll.*

In a straw poll, the body supported limiting discussion to six participants.

In discussion, concern was expressed that currently seated bodies would not have their interests represented if they reunified with another region, or simply that they would lose their vote at the WSC if the resolution passed.
In response Ron H (WB) stated that the resolution referred to the primary criterion and that there would be other seating criteria. He also stated that the use of intermediate bodies may answer some of the concerns expressed by delegates from larger countries or states.

A delegate reminded the body that we must think globally and make room for WSC growth. 

*Final straw poll: Support by standing poll.*

It was agreed to not discuss the service system straw polls until the service system resolutions had been voted on.

**Proposal A:**

*For the Fellowship of NA and the WSC to consider a proposal for the creation of Written Service Material dedicated to assisting the members of NA as a whole on (1) how to actively participate in literature and publication projects as well as (2) to have resource material available in providing guidance for the development of Literature and Publication processes locally.*

Intent: To enhance and broaden fellowship service material for the development, input, and review processes of our printed publications: Informational Pamphlets (IPs), Service Related IPs, Books, Booklets, Service Manuals/Handbooks, Journals, Newsletters, and other written materials for the good of the NA Fellowship.

Maker: Carolina Region

The maker presented the proposal and Ron M (WB Chair) provided the Board’s response that NAWS does not have the resources to make this a priority.

*Initial straw poll: Opposition.*

In a straw poll the body strongly supported limiting discussion to six participants per proposal.

Discussion of Proposal A suggested that there was support for the general intent of the proposal to increase Fellowship involvement in the creation of NA literature, but there were concerns about the vagueness of the proposal and the body’s ability to make sound decisions given the late hour. In response to a delegate request, the proposal was straw polled without point 2 and the result was opposition.

*Final straw poll of Proposal A: Opposition.*

**Tuesday, 1 May**

**OLD BUSINESS DISCUSSION (CONTINUED)**

9:00 am – 10:53 am

*Session led by Jack H (WSC CF) and Marc G (WSC CF)*

**Proposal B:**


Intent: The publication of a book length piece literature featuring the selections of message(s) of recovery illustrated by already reviewed and published articles contributed by members to the past 30 years of Recovery in the NA Way.
Maker: Hawaii Region

The proposal was presented by the maker with the amendment that it be prefaced by “To submit to the World Board as an idea for further study.” Ron M (WB Chair) responded that material from previous issues of the magazine is being included in the electronic version, there was little interest shown in the idea in the recent literature survey. He suggests this could be introduced as an idea for future work, but given current NAWS resources and priorities, the Board would not support this proposal.

Initial straw poll: Opposition.

In discussion it was suggested that ideas like this can be submitted as project ideas to the World Board, that something could be produced in formats other than those in the proposal, and the concern that material in the magazine isn’t Fellowship-approved. One region shared their positive experience of producing a similar book from their regionally produced magazine.

Final straw poll: Opposition.

Proposal C:

For Board Approved Literature be clearly marked on front “Service Related Material” and not intended to be read during recovery meetings.

Intent: To further make it clear to fellowship that this is not fellowship approved Literature and not intended for use in recovery meetings. We feel that the statement on the back in somewhat small print is not noticeable enough for members that may not know or understand the difference. That although this is explained in the GTWS that many members do not read that service handbook.

Maker: Tejas Bluebonnet Region

The maker presented the proposal. The World Board had no response other than what was in the CAR.

Initial straw poll: Support by standing poll.

Following discussion the proposal was changed to read “

Board Approved Literature Service Pamphlets be clearly marked on front “Service Related Material and not intended to be read during recovery meetings.”

Straw poll of proposal as changed: Strong support.

Following discussion related to the language of the proposed statement, Anthony E (NAWS Executive Director) proposed that it was clearly understood that there is support for the idea that service pamphlets indicate on the front that they are service material and are not intended to be read in recovery meetings. He suggested that specific language be presented in the Moving Forward session on Saturday rather than attempting to create that language during this session. A straw poll of Anthony’s suggestion showed strong support.

It was unclear to some participants whether the limit of six participants speaking to each proposal had been agreed to during the previous sessions, and whether it would allow for full and fair participation in the spirit of consensus. A straw poll on limiting discussion showed strong opposition.

Proposal D:

That members who wish to receive The NA Way Magazine in hard copy format pay a subscription fee to cover the costs of printing and mailing.
Intent: To distribute the costs of printing and mailing the magazine in hard copy format among members who wish to receive the magazine in that format rather than having NAWS cover those costs.

Maker: Southern Brazil Region

The proposal was presented by the maker. The World Board had no response other than what was in the CAR.

Initial straw poll: Strong opposition.

Proposal O:

To amend Proposal D: That The members who wish to receive The NA Way Magazine in hard copy format and who can or wish pay a subscription fee to cover the costs of printing and mailing, have a direct form of doing so (either by credit card or bank transaction) which will only serve for this publication.

Intent: To give the members who wish and can pay for the magazine, the opportunity of helping to cover the cost of printing and mailing. In the way, the members who cannot afford the magazine will have the chance to receive the NA Way for free.

Maker: Uruguay

The proposal was presented by the maker. Ron M (WB Chair) responded that people wishing to could simply donate to NAWS rather than create a new system through this proposal.

Initial straw poll: Strong opposition.

In response to a question Anthony clarified that a subscription system would cost about $10-12 per member, and that when we had a subscription-only magazine, the subscriptions never covered the cost of the magazine.

Suggestions included having communities order bulk subscriptions for distribution to members, who then have the ability to contribute what they can afford if they wish to, or including the cost of a subscription on the na.org contributions page.

The process of bringing ideas like this to WSC for discussion was supported by one delegate, who also suggested that making the wording of proposals less restrictive could allow for a broader discussion about publications in general rather than one limited to a single publication.

Final straw poll of Proposal O: Strong opposition.

Discussion of Proposal D centered on the possibility of improving the contribution portal. Anthony invited anyone with ideas for improvements, or who were experiencing challenges, to contact NAWS.

Final straw poll of Proposal D: Strong opposition.

Proposal E:

Our idea is to revisit the discussion of the world board members no longer having voting status at the world service conference.

The maker presented the motion and clarified that the intent of the proposal was to restrict the World Board from voting twice on a motion, once at their home group and then again at the WSC.

Maker: Upper Midwest Region
Ron H (WB) stated that the role of the Board at the WSC is to offer a global perspective, and considerable resources are invested in Board members to make this possible. Their participation at the WSC is as Board members representing a global fellowship and a global perspective. He also reminded everyone that this has been discussed many times and not supported. Ron M (WB Chair) also reminded the body that World Board members do not vote during old business so there is no possibility of them “voting twice.”

*Initial straw poll: Opposition.*

During discussion some participants felt the proposal was misleading and discussing the specifics of the Board’s participation at the WSC was not in order as the proposal was about whether to have this discussion in the first place, rather the topic itself. The cofacilitators ruled that the discussion was in order as it was “the discussion that the body was having” and the restrictive rules of the decision-making session didn’t apply in regard to the choice of topic.

Some expressed support for having this conversation. Discussion included the idea that this issue is part of the broader conversation about our service system, the question of whether voting was a necessary part of participation, and the belief that more groups are choosing to discuss CAT issues and voting in new business should be adjusted accordingly.

In support of a change to the Board’s voting rights it was questioned if the current policy was in harmony with consensus, whether future changes in WSC seating would mean the Board would be unduly influential due to a reduction in seated regions, and if the Board should have a single vote that represented their collective conscience.

Others shared that this discussion has been had many times and no change has been warranted. Support for current policy and trust in the Board was expressed. Some participants shared contrasting accounts of policy within their regions: at some they have a vote and at others they do not.

*Interim straw poll: Strong opposition.*

The body was straw polled and strongly supported closing the discussion. The maker of the proposal was allowed to address some of the comments made during the discussion, including that the intent is to continue discussing aspects of CBDM at the WSC, and is not intended to limit the ability to hear from the Board at the WSC. He suggested the Board should have a single vote that reflected their collective conscience, in the same way that RDs carry a single vote that reflects the collective conscience of their region.

*Final Straw poll: Strong opposition*

### OLD BUSINESS DECISIONS

**11:15 am – 4:47 pm**

*Session led by Jack H (WSC CF) and Marc G (WSC CF)*

Roll call #2 was conducted [See Appendix A] by Marc G (WSC CF), showing 127 participants present (112 regions), 75 represents a 2/3 majority, 57 represents a simple majority.

Jack H (WSC CF) began by reviewing the rules and procedures for this session from the WSC Rules of Order, and clarifying some of the details in response to questions. In response to an inquiry about how to amend motions from the floor, Jack reminded everyone that Motion 7 specifies that changes to motions, resolutions, and proposals will be handled in the discussion portion of the old business session. If Motion 7 passes, it will not be possible to amend motions from the floor during the formal business session.
Motion #7  It was M/C World Board
To adopt for WSC 2012 only, the following exceptions to the WSC Rules of Order:

Formal Old Business Session

A. Main motions (GWSNA, page 57G) or amendments (GWSNA, page 57B) to main motions will be limited to the following:
   o CAR motions, including resolutions
   o A motion “To approve the minutes from WSC 2010”.
   o This motion “To adopt for WSC 2012 only, the following exceptions to the WSC Rules of Order:”

B. Changes to motions, resolutions, and proposals will be handled in the discussion portion of the old business session.
   o Proposed changes to motions, resolutions, and proposals should be submitted on a proposal form by the old business deadline at 6 pm Sunday (or if the last session Sunday runs long, a half hour after that session).
   o Changes that would previously have been addressed by making a formal amendment will be submitted by the deadline as “an idea for changing a motion, resolution, or proposal.”

Formal New Business Session

A. Main motions (GWSNA, page 57G) or amendments (GWSNA, page 57B) to main motions will be limited to the following:
   o Motions to pass the project plans
   o A motion to approve the 2012-2014 NAWS budget

B. Any other new business will be treated as a proposal rather than a motion:
   o New business proposals, including proposed changes to motions, must be submitted on a proposal form by the new business deadline, 6 pm Wednesday night.

Intent: To continue our evolution towards a consensus based conference.

Motion requires a 2/3 majority.

Motion carried by voice vote

M/S/F to divide the “Formal Old Business Session” from the “Formal New Business Session” Kenny B (RD New Jersey)/Wesley K (RD Upper Midwest)

During the course of this discussion it was confirmed that there would be a discussion session for new business items, and that, depending on the nature of the proposal, some items could be submitted as proposals during the new business session and implemented at or after this WSC without having to wait until WSC 2014.

Motion #6  It was M/C World Board
To approve the 2010 World Service Conference Minutes.

Motion carried by unanimous consent.

A couple of participants asked about the objection raised during Old Business Discussion that a straw poll was shown as unanimous when it was not. Ron M (WB Chair) said that the recording had been checked the straw poll was unanimous. It was stated into the microphone during the session that it was unanimous and there were no objections.
Motion #1  It was M/C World Board
To approve the book Living Clean: The Journey Continues contained in Addendum A.

Intent: To have a book on the recovery journey available to our members.

Motion carried by unanimous consent

Motion #2  It was M/C World Board
To allow the World Board to make non-substantive corrections to Fellowship-approved literature which do not impact the original meaning of the Fellowship-approved text and which fix typographical errors, obsolete references, references to outdated literature, and other similar corrections. The World Board will announce such corrections not less than 120 days in advance of publication.

Intent: To allow corrections to literature that do not impact the original meaning of the Fellowship-approved text to be made without necessitating a fellowship wide vote. Any corrections of this type to be made in Fellowship-approved literature would be announced in advance.

Motion requires a 2/3 majority.

Motion, as changed during discussion, carried by standing vote 90-19-1 (yes-no-abstain)

M/F for roll call vote of Motion 2 Allen J (RD Chesapeake & Potomac)

The body was straw polled to determine whether they agreed that Motions 2, 3, and 4 should go into the 2014 CAR as they had been amended. There was strong opposition to this.

Motion #3  It was M/C World Board
To allow the World Board to bundle, excerpt, and repackage Fellowship-approved literature without changes to the texts themselves. The World Board will announce these actions not less than 120 days in advance of publication.

Intent: This would allow literature or portions of literature to be combined so that members who were interested in a particular topic could more easily access all of the material on that topic in one place.

Motion requires a 2/3 majority.

Motion, as changed during discussion, carried by standing vote 89-22-1 (yes-no-abstain)

M/F for a roll call vote of Motion 3 Wesley K (RD Upper Midwest)

M/F for a standing vote on Motion 3 David L (RD Ohio). Note: after a break, the facilitators decided to take a standing vote on Motions 2, 3, and 4 to clarify that the motions had received the two-thirds required.

In response to an inquiry, Marc confirmed that requests to conduct a standing or roll call vote must have conference approval, and are not conducted simply because a single participant requests them.

Motion #4  It was M/C World Board
To allow the World Board the ability to create and approve enhanced electronic or digital versions of texts that include supplemental materials or connections to other NA materials. The World Board will announce such enhancements not less than 120 days in advance of publication.

Intent: To allow supplemental material such as sound files, historical images or texts, and hyperlinks to other NA materials, to be included within an electronic or digital version of a
text with clear labeling indicating what is Fellowship-approved and the source of any additional material.

Motion requires a 2/3 majority.

Motion carried by standing vote 87-23-1 (yes-no-abstain)

M/F for roll call vote of Motion 4 Allen J (RD Chesapeake & Potomac)

The body recessed for lunch at 12:30 pm and reconvened at 2:34 pm.

Roll call #3 was conducted [See Appendix A] by Marc G (WSC CF), showing 127 participants present (112 regions), 75 represents a 2/3 majority, 57 represents a simple majority.

Jack stated that it was understood that these were matters of importance to the fellowship, and to ensure that there was no doubt about the decisions made, a standing count for Motions 2, 3, and 4 would be taken.

Motion #5  It was M/C World Board
To hold the World Convention of NA every three years, beginning 2018, alternating North American and non-North American locations, as follows and contained in the revised World Convention Map contained in Addendum C.

Intent: Considering the trend of decreasing attendance and a changing global economy, to decrease the frequency of the World Convention of NA, thereby making it a more special event.

Motion requires a 2/3 majority.

Motion carried by voice vote

Resolution #1  It was M/C World Board
Our service efforts will be carried out through a system that includes structure, process, people, and resources.

Resolution requires a simple majority.

Resolution carried by voice vote.

Resolution #2  It was M/C World Board
The service system is group-focused and includes a local-level body dedicated exclusively to addressing group concerns.

Resolution requires a simple majority.

Resolution carried by voice vote.

Resolution #3  It was M/C World Board
Training and mentoring of trusted servants are essential functions of the service system.

Resolution requires a simple majority.

Resolution carried by voice vote.

Resolution #4  It was M/C World Board
Service bodies are purpose-and vision-driven.

Resolution requires a simple majority.

Resolution carried by voice vote.

Resolution #5  It was M/C World Board
Service bodies work together to utilize planning processes to organize and coordinate their efforts.
Resolution requires a simple majority.

Resolution carried by voice vote

Resolution #6  It was M/C World Board
  Service bodies make decisions by consensus.

Resolution requires a simple majority.

Resolution carried by standing vote 77-31-1-2 (yes-no-abstain-present not voting)

Resolution #7  It was M/C World Board
  The service structure includes local service bodies, state/nation/province service bodies, and intermediate bodies if needed. Service bodies follow established geographic boundaries. They are not self-determined, but are formed, based on need, through a collaborative planning process and agreement with other affected service bodies at the next level of service.

Resolution requires a simple majority.

Resolution carried by standing vote 61-44-2-4 (yes-no-abstain-present not voting)

There was some discussion of this resolution including some confusion over the term “geographic boundaries” and the concern that self-determination is a right guaranteed service bodies by the Fourth Tradition. Several delegates explained that they would have to vote against the resolution because the vote was split in their region.

Resolution #8  It was M/C World Board
  State/national/province boundaries are the primary criterion for seating consideration at the World Service Conference.

Resolution requires a simple majority.

Resolution carried by standing vote 60-46-1-3 yes-no-abstain-present not voting)

Following the introduction of Resolution 8 there was discussion related to how this would affect currently seated regions, what would happen in the future with seating provinces, and whether population should be considered. One delegate explained that in the EDM, this approach is already being taken, and it’s working well. Another delegate said that his region has a long history at the conference and if there were only one seat per state, it would be very disheartening. A participant read from GWSNA and reminded the body that “the purpose of the World Service Conference is to be supportive of the Fellowship as a whole” and that the delegate “is selected by the region's group representatives and/or RCMs to act in the best interests of NA as a whole, not solely as an advocate of his or her NA community's priorities.”

M/S/F Appeal the decision of the facilitator to require simple majority to pass Resolution 8. David H (RD Mountaineer)/Walt B (RD Free State)

M/S/F Appeal the decision of the facilitator to require simple majority to pass the previous seven resolutions. Kathy B (RD Chicagoland)/Kenny B (RD New Jersey)
HRP REPORT

5:18 pm – 6:53 pm
Session led by Valerie D (HRP), Margaret H-M (HRP), and Pat P (HRP)

Valerie D (HRP) introduced herself and the rest of the HRP, and then outlined the session. She went on to explain the purpose of the HRP and how their terms work. Handouts related to election results at previous conferences were distributed. Valerie also corrected information given previously, clarifying that the RBZ nomination process was created at the 2004 WSC.

Changes this cycle included:

- Taking cost-saving measures such as replacing postal mailings with email and using Skype for candidate interviews.
- Revising the RBZ rationale form, introducing the local committee questionnaire.
- Adding a second HRP member to the interview calls.
- Adjusting terms of panel members to ensure that HRP members attend a WSC before taking a leadership position within the HRP.
- Interviewing former World Board and HRP members to gather experience.
- Distributing Candidate Profile Reports (CPRs) were distributed prior to the WSC.

Ninety-four candidates from the World Pool were evaluated in the blind scoring process, of which 43 were candidates for the World Board, 28 were candidates for the HRP, and 23 were cofacilitator candidates.

In the next stage of the process, 47 candidates were interviewed. Twenty-six of these came from the blind scoring process, and 21 came from RBZ nominations. Of the interviewees, 28 were candidates for the World Board, 13 were candidates for the HRP, and 6 were cofacilitator candidates.

Margaret H-M (HRP) further explained the nomination process, including the following steps:

- Every World Pool member is asked to update their World Pool Information Form (WPIF). Those who have not updated their information within three years are removed from the pool.
- Every World Pool member is emailed asking them if they are willing to be considered as candidates.
- Those who are willing go through a blind scoring process by each HRP member, which is composed of:
  - Recent service experience – 35 points
  - Overall service history – 10 points
  - Relevant life experience – 10 points
  - General questions – 10 questions at 15 points each
- Average scores are determined from each HRP member’s blind scoring process. The highest scoring candidates move forward in the process.
- Candidate interviews and reference checks, including RBZ candidates, are conducted in December. HRP members were careful not to interview people with whom they are very close. RBZ candidates were also blind scored this time for the first time and the results were used to help select nominees and not to eliminate them from the interview process.
- This year, they also sent a local committee questionnaire for candidates who were not nominated by RBZ. This seems to have potential but it needs more work.
- Final selection of nominees by consensus of the HRP. The number of nominees is determined by the scores on the CPRs, and the number of open positions available.
- Nominees are announced in the Conference Report.

Margaret offered the following qualities that determine a good candidate:
- A World Services perspective, including experience as a delegate or workgroup member.
- Knowledge of current NAWS projects.
- Complete, focused, and succinct responses to our questions.
- Supportive references that offer a broad perspective.
- Accurate information, entered correctly in their WPIF.

Margaret and Valerie provided corrections to three CPRs.

Margaret detailed the terms of service that are available for this cycle:
- World Board: Eight 6-year and Three 4-year terms as stated in A Guide to World Services in NA: “If the World Service Conference chooses to elect more than eight (8) board members at the same time, the term lengths will be determined by volunteers and then by random drawing at the first World Board meeting following the WSC.”
- HRP: Two 4-year terms
- Cofacilitators: One 2-year term, and one 4-year term.

Valerie closed the presentation portion of the session by reminding everyone that the HRP has full confidence in every candidate; that seating a full board will require participants to vote for at least eleven candidates; that a blank ballot is effectively a “No” vote; and that not returning a ballot at all will remove that ballot from the vote count altogether. She also thanked participants for honoring the privacy of the nominees, and reminded everyone to bring the CPRs to the election session in the morning.

Pat P (HRP) facilitated the question-and-answer portion of the session. Other than clarification of the information already given in the session, the following questions were asked and answered:
- Can the CPR information be shared with regional bodies? No it cannot.
- How many members are there in the World Pool? There are approximately 1,000 members in the World Pool.
- Does the HRP play a role in selecting workgroup members? No it does not.
- How can members learn about upcoming NAWS projects? NAWS News, The NA Way Magazine, and www.na.org are the main sources. Qualified candidates should be forwarded to the World Board.
- Does a criminal record count against a candidate? No, as long as the candidate can acquire a visa.
- Who sees the completed ballots? The HRP, Roberta Tolkan (NAWS Staff), and Don Cameron (WSC Parliamentarian).
- What would happen if more than eleven World Board candidates achieved over 60%? The eleven highest scoring candidates would be elected.
- Is it possible that the voting process may change if a full board isn’t elected? The election survey shows overwhelming support for the HRP process.
- What would happen if the World Board wasn’t filled? Ron M (WB Chair) reminded everyone that the World Board has never been filled, and that a quorum of twelve Board members is required.
There was also some discussion about mistakes made on CPRs by candidates, and that the forms the HRP uses could create some confusion about the length of time a candidate served in a position. Pat stated the HRP would discuss ways to help improve these issues at future HRP meetings.

Wednesday, 2 May

**ELECTIONS & BUDGET PRESENTATION**

9:08 am – 10:38 pm  
*Session led by Mark W (HRP) and Anthony E (NAWS Executive Director)*

Roll call #4 was conducted [See Appendix A] by Mark W (HRP), showing 127 participants present (112 regions), 85 represents a 2/3 majority, 64 represents a simple majority.

Each participant received ballots from the HRP when they answered roll call. Mark W (HRP) clarified that participants would receive separate ballots for the World Board, HRP, and cofacilitator elections. He further explained that each of these ballots could be returned or not, according to participant’s wishes, but that the CPR packets must be returned. The session was briefly adjourned while participants handed in their ballots.

**Budget Presentation**

After reconvening, Anthony E (NAWS Executive Director) reviewed the budget and the draft NAWS financial report from March, which contains a more up-to-date financial picture than the accounts in the *NAWS Annual Report*. He explained how a snapshot of any company’s financial health can be taken by adding all of the assets together, which include cash, money owed, and inventory, and then dividing this number by the total amount of any money owed to others (also known as liabilities). These figures are contained in the NAWS budget sheet. According to financial experts, this number should be more than 1.3. The current NAWS number is 4.53. He also explained that this simple formula can be used to check the health of local events and service offices.

Anthony then discussed the decreasing trend in contributions and literature sales, and the effect this has on NAWS’ operations. To counter this, expenses have been reduced in many areas, including a freeze on replacing staff that are not mission-critical.
Anthony explained that the NAWS budget is a financial plan based on the best information available when the budget is created. He then reviewed the expenses across the four main areas of the budget.

He went on to review the proposed budget, explaining actual, annualized, and proposed expenses. He stated that generally income is estimated conservatively, and expenses are estimated liberally. *Living Clean* was used as an example of how literature sales generally remain fairly stable regardless of what new pieces are available. The Basic Text is the primary source of NAWS income, and has been for many years. Releasing new literature does not mean that we are immediately able to liberalize NAWS spending restrictions and risk the long-term ability of NAWS to provide services. Despite the fact that income has dropped by $1,000,000 during the last year, there is still a positive net income due to the cost savings we have put into effect.

Anthony explained that developmental subsidies and allowances can be found in two places in the budget: as literature discounts and price reductions in the Literature Production area, and as free literature in the Fellowship Development area. The philosophy of ensuring communities that need it have access to literature is one that has been in place for many years. As communities develop, they gradually become able to pay for their own literature. In recent years, we have had to balance the desire to make literature available with our need to survive financially. The amount of free literature has had to be capped, along with spending on public relations and fellowship development. This means that NAWS turns down requests to participate in some fellowship events, and has reduced attendance at national and international PR events.

The total budget projects a $322,800 net in one year, and a $283,530 net in the other, although it is expected that the actual numbers may be smaller. Without the Philadelphia convention, Anthony explains, he believes we would see a deficit in one year and close to a deficit in the other.

Anthony discussed the budget categories used for projects: They are discretionary expenses rather than essential services because they are dependent on the WSC’s decisions on the proposed projects. He explained that project plans are attached to the strategic plan, and that the vote to approve the NAWS budget does not take place until the individual project plans have been approved.

He informed conference participants that we have two digital recorders available that they can request to use to interview long-term members in their regions as part of the member experience project. This is a way for us to capture our history in a way that is cost-effective.
Project Plans Presentation

Anthony then handed the session over to Becky M (NAWS Assistant ED) to review the project plans for the upcoming cycle. Becky recapped the expenses for the Living Clean and Service System Projects over the last cycle. For Living Clean we projected $300,000 and spent $277,397. For the Service System Project, we also projected expenses of $300,000, and actual expenses were $297,122.

Becky explained that about ninety percent of the work of NAWS is essential services. What begins as a one-time or limited activity or project often becomes something the fellowship wants on an ongoing basis, so our “pile” of essential services continues to grow. Becky also explained that most of the ten percent staff reduction since the last conference has been in public relations and project support, so our staff is spread thin and they have done a phenomenal job.

There are no workgroups planned for this next cycle, partly because of the complexity of some of the work, but also to control the costs associated with transporting and orienting workgroup members. The projects represent what was identified by the Board’s strategic planning process as priorities, and what staff assessed as what realistically can be accomplished with available resources.

Anthony and Becky both urged people who do not get their questions answered to ask any of the board members or staff during a break.

During a brief question and answer session Anthony and Becky offered the following explanations:

- The budget reflects the downward trend in income over the last four years and contains no “hidden fat” or easy place to cut. Further reductions will require reduced operations.
- Creating a workgroup that represents the diversity of the entire fellowship is not possible. The World Board is probably as close to this as can be.
- The Service System Project budget is intended to fund the ability to bring people in to help with specific areas of service. The dilemma is always engagement and involvement. Participants were encouraged to forward names of experienced members to the World Board for consideration.
- Becky expressed that the WSC session on the role of zones will be an opportunity to come up with new ways to collaborate better and enhance the effectiveness of NAWS attendance at zones.
- Overhead is divided amongst the four areas of the budget using specific percentages described on page 27 of the CAT.
- Digital book publications will contribute to increased income at some point in the future, but this may require some trial and error.
- Backorders of books have been due to an unavoidable delay with a shipping container stuck in transit, and a necessary reduction in stock levels at NAWS to control costs.
- The proposal to alter the frequency and rotation of the World Convention is intended as a medium-term solution to the financial issues associated with the event. Because so many members booked hotels over the internet, we did not meet our room block at WCNA 34. However, NAWS’ has long term relationships with the San Diego hotels, and we were able to negotiate.
- A conversation about the costs of funding delegate travel at the WSC and the related costs of a growing WSC will have to happen as part of the WSC seating conversation.
• NAWS has used technologies such as Skype during the last cycle, for example to hold three CAR workshops for Spanish-speaking members, and will continue to pursue every avenue to efficiently use resources and ask for involvement by members who can help.

A short video from Iran was shown during the break.

PUBLIC RELATIONS & ELECTION ANNOUNCEMENT

11:41 pm (2 May) – 12:44 am (3 May)
Session led by Arne H-G (WB)

Arne H-G (WB) began by sharing how public relations is vital to our credibility and our growth, and explained that cooperative relationships with professionals and the general public are needed so that addicts can be referred to NA, rather than other self-help groups for addicts. He referred to the first bullet point of A Vision for NA Service and the fact that we are a global fellowship, as demonstrated by the video from Iran just shown.

A public service announcement (PSA) for radio from the Shark Coast ASC in the South Florida Region was played.

Arne explained that the session would be divided into three main parts:

1. The 2011 Membership Survey
2. NAWS attendance at professional events
3. Fellowship PR efforts and events

2011 Membership Survey

The 2011 Membership Survey had the largest response ever of 17,492, including 162 incarcerated members. The survey results showed

• The percentage of female NA members has increased to 47% of the fellowship.
• The average number of years drug-free has also increased, which could be attributed both to an increase in cleantime within the fellowship, and more participation in the survey by members with more time.
• 38% of members who have a sponsor do not sponsor others, and 20% of members who sponsor others do not have a sponsor themselves.
• 70% of members identified as having some type of service commitment, a percentage which has decreased since the last survey. The average NA meeting attendance has also declined. Arne speculated that there may be a correlation between more cleantime, and fewer meetings and commitments. Of the top twelve influences to attend NA, the largest change from 2009 was the decrease in the influence of NA literature. The 2011 figure more closely resembles 2007, so 2009 was an anomaly which is being monitored.
• AA remains the other twelve step fellowship attended the most, although interestingly two-thirds of respondents do not attend any other fellowship.
• 47% of respondents indicated that they took some type of medication, with medical maintenance like blood pressure and diabetes medications the largest growth category. This could be related to members staying clean longer and therefore getting older.

A PSA from the Metro Detroit/Michigan Regions was shown.
**NAWS Attendance at Professional Events & Cooperative Efforts with Local Communities**

Arne discussed NAWS attendance at professional events over the last cycle. Our participation has been curtailed dramatically due to budget constraints. The focus for our PR efforts is determined by the NAWS environmental scan and strategic plan, which this cycle produced the focus of criminal justice and the medical community. Arne described his experience of walking around WCNA 34 in San Diego with two drug court judges who were participating in the professional panel. They were approached several times by members who had been sentenced by them and wanted to thank them. Another panel consisted of the directors of the Texas and California prison systems.

Arne then introduced Jane N (NAWS PR Manager) who discussed the importance of cooperative efforts between NAWS and local communities. The Northern California PR committee had initially developed a relationship with the Director of the California Department of Corrections’ Rehab Unit, which resulted in 8,000 incarcerated addicts participating in the WCNA Unity Day call.

Jane went on to detail the conferences attended by NAWS, and some of the successes achieved, including:

- The International Society of Addiction Medicine in Italy and Norway, where contacts were made with local treatments centers, local government ministers, and the director of the US-based National Institute of Drug Abuse.
- The International Federation of Non-Governmental Organizations in Malaysia, where information and literature was distributed to police, policy makers, and treatment professionals; primarily from Malaysia, Thailand, and the Philippines.
- The American Society for Addiction Medicine, where we were thanked by many doctors who were grateful that information was being presented about an abstinence-based program.

Jane then introduced Iñigo C (WB) who presented an update on the PR efforts in Spain that coincided with WCNA 33 in Barcelona. A relationship was established with a member of the Spanish Parliament who helped facilitate meetings within the government, and participation in official conferences in Spain where they have previously been unable to attend.

*A PSA from the HOW Brazil Region was shown.*

**Fellowship PR Efforts and Events**

Jane reviewed cooperative and fellowship PR events. She began by discussing how NAWS had previously been able to help local communities with the cost of registering for events and with supplies of literature. Due to budget constraints much less help of this type was offered in 2010. In 2011, some support was given in the form of literature, but not with the registration costs.

The regional reports indicate that 80% of the reporting regions are active in PR.

*A radio PSA from the Pikes Peak Area in Colorado was played.*

Jane reminded everyone that the PSAs in this session are available for local use.

Jane then presented images from around the world of local PR efforts. Highlights included meetings with government officials in Bangladesh, and attendance by members of the royal family at an open house in Kuwait.
Jane also discussed how cooperation between NAWS and local communities at events such as the professional day at the Northern California Regional Convention are enabling us to grow relationships with professionals. One result of this is another increase in the number of correctional facilities projected to participate in the WCNA 35 Unity Day call. This experience has also been shared with other regions.

A PSA from the Southern Brazil Region was shown.

**Election Results**

Valerie D (HRP) announced the election results, and stated that history had been made by seating a full board for the first time.


Human Resource Panel: Lib E, David J.

WSC Cofacilitators, Dickie D, Marc G.

**Thursday, 3 May**

**COMMUNICATIONS**

*09:02 am - 10:51 am*

*Session led by Jim DeLizia and Ron H (WB)*

Thursday began with two sessions facilitated by NAWS consultant Jim DeLizia. The first session focused on the principles and practices of effective communication. In setting up the discussion, Jim referenced the Eighth Concept and the Internal Communication key result area in the NAWS Strategic Plan.

Participants discussed two differently worded versions of a statement in an exercise designed to help them refine their communication styles. Using language that is positive and encourages collaboration is key to effective communication.

The RD’s were reminded that their role as a communication link between NAWS and regions is of critical importance of this to the service system. He also reflected on how the RD survey revealed that the second most frequently mentioned challenge delegates experience is communication, and specifically how to communicate in a way that draws us together and helps us work on our common challenges. Because 75% of how we gather information is through what we see and not through what we hear, how we communicate is also important—speaking from the heart and making sure our body language communicates what we want it to.

Jim outlined the components of effective communication:

- Content – is it important?
- Perspective – how does the audience view the issue?
- Words – these need to be chosen carefully
- Tone – affects how words are heard
- Integrity – actions, behaviors, and attitudes need to correspond with what is said
- Non-verbal – body language
Small Group Discussion - Content

Participants further discussed content in small groups, and how to determine what is important to communicate, by considering ways to report back to their regions on the NAWS environmental scan and strategic plan. Participants were asked to imagine they had a half-hour to report to their regional assemblies. Consider:

- What do the attendees care about?
- What is the purpose of the report?
- How could the report help the members of your region?
- How much do the attendees currently understand about the subject?
- What action do we want attendees to take?
- Do we need any feedback?

Jim asked first what will happen as a result of our communication: What are the goals of our communication? Some responses included:

- Attracting members to service
- Providing data
- Increasing a sense of involvement and helping people feel part of a larger community

To ensure that communications are helpful it was suggested that delegates talk with their local trusted servants and get to know their needs so that they can communicate information that is most relevant to them.

Suggestions for content of the report included:

- Report information specific to the context—the report to a region will be different than the report to an area.
- Help groups understand their part in a worldwide fellowship, including how the input groups supply in workshops feeds into the environmental scan process.

Ron H (WB) invited some delegates to share their successful experience with communication, which included:

- Paper and electronic distribution of a handout from the RD team containing information from the region, zone, and NAWS in bullet-point form.
- Online communication tools to talk between meetings and to hold workshops.
- Combining subcommittees into a single PR committee.
- Using regular online meetings in between face-to-face meetings with action tasks to ensure progress.
- Utilizing CBDM, and trying out tools for this such as color-coded cards.
- Personally inviting members to help.
- Clearly defining projects.
- Taking care when electing trusted servants and utilizing delegation.
- Training trusted servants.
- Attending zonal meetings and the WSC as opportunities to connect with other regions and to learn.
Examples of NAWS tools that can support RDs in effective communication include:

- eblasts
- *NAWS News* with bullet points on the first page
- The NA Way Magazine
- Face-to-face at zonal meetings, etc.
- Webinars (which Ron provided detail about)
- [www.na.org](http://www.na.org)

Ron solicited ideas from the group as a whole for improving communication. Responses included:

- Add pictures to reports.
- Include a combination of human interest and data.
- Give “highlights of highlights” to help with translations.
- Use discussion boards – although Ron shared that there are challenges with them.

**Communication Challenges**

Jim continued by discussing ways of communicating in challenging situations, and asked the group for examples of what is most challenging about communicating about change. Responses included confronting closed-mindedness and fear of the unknown.

Jim suggested five aspects of communication to keep in mind:

1. **Timeliness** – give people time to understand the issue before a decision or input is required.
2. **Involvement** – the audience needs to feel that they can affect what decisions are made and that they are included in any solutions.
3. **Sensitivity** – how will the issue affect the audience and what will they have to do?
4. **Clarity** – why is this an issue, what are the goals we are trying to achieve, and what are the benefits of a solution?
5. **Connection** – how does the issue connect with the goals, plans and needs of the people you are trying to reach?

The delegate survey highlighted the challenge of communicating in a way that helps build unity. Jim asked the group what language and tone can be used to help build unity. Qualities for this language included:

1. **Visual** – talk in ways that evoke images. Storytelling is a powerful way to do this, particularly in NA, because NA members are familiar with the empathy of sharing their stories.
2. **Inclusive** – use “we” instead of “I,” and “our” not “my.” Use open-ended questions rather than yes/no questions.
3. **Positive** – talk about possibilities in a situation rather than the obstacles. Make challenges seem surmountable.
4. **Sincere** – speak from the heart.

For the small-group discussion portion of the session each table discussed sample statements, with the aim of considering how to use the principles above to more effectively communicate the information in the statements. Each table was asked to rewrite the statements and to share their ideas with the entire group.
COLLABORATION

11:10 am - 12:45 pm
Session led by Jim DeLizia and Ron H (WB)

This session focused on specific issues to communicate in the 2012-2014 cycle, and involved participants in the forming of the Issue Discussion Topics for the next cycle.

IDTs are defined in a cycle through the same environmental scanning process that leads to the priorities in the strategic plan. These priorities lead to the IDTs, which in turn help to identify key messages.

Ron H (WB) first introduced the issue of Principles before Personalities by asking if this phrase meant that personality was therefore unimportant. The room agreed with Ron that it did not mean this; however, we do have evidence that strong personalities are an issue within NA at times.

Ron then introduced the issue of Collaboration by discussing how this is something we have been doing for a long time, and discussed how the autonomy of the Fourth Tradition could be interpreted as saying that collaboration isn’t necessary. Ron suggested that this may happen if the second half of the tradition isn’t considered. Ron discussed how the application of the Traditions sometimes involves finding the tension between complimentary principles.

Small Group Discussion

Jim stated that successfully discussing these issues with the fellowship would require the careful use of language and concepts, and that delegates have an essential role in forming this approach. Jim divided the room in half and assigned one to discuss Principles before Personalities, and the other to discuss Collaboration. The questions to consider were:

- What are the reasons this is an issue?
- What do we want to improve by addressing this issue?

[Note: Full copies of these small group discussion notes are available on request.]

Some of the reasons shared for why principles before personalities are an issue included:

- They can set a tone that is difficult to overcome.
- Personalities can become “poisonalities.”
- Strong personalities can cause disunity.

If we were to be successful in addressing these issues, what specifically would be improved, asked Jim. Some of the ideas shared included:

- A more collaborative and involved process focused on our primary purpose and keeping integrity in service.
- Cooperation rather than confrontation.
- A change from “unprincipled” to “principled” personalities through recovery.
- More members bringing their step work in to service meetings.

Some of the improvements we hope to see by addressing collaboration include:

- More rotation in service which will help prevent personalities taking over
- More inclusivity, open mindedness, and acceptance. Jim pointed out that understanding has to come before acceptance.
- Understanding of the difference between sovereignty and autonomy. As Ron H pointed out earlier, autonomy does not have to conflict with collaboration, added Jim.
**Key Messages**

Jim talked about key messages as communication tools that leaders use to get a concept across in language that makes sense to an audience and moves them to greater understanding and belief that they need to act. Good key messages move people from where they are to where they need to go. They reflect your understanding of your audience. Effective key messages have meaning for the audience; they are clear, concise, and consistently delivered; they can be delivered in different forms; and they move the audience.

During the small group discussion portion of the session each table was to develop key messages. Jim gave each table a goal for their key messages—an idea that the messages were to communicate.

The goal of the key messages for **Principles before Personalities** was to communicate the idea “personality is valuable, but not at the expense of unity.” Ideas included:

- We shouldn’t have to choose between the two. Both together, not either/or
- Include spiritual awakenings in the process. Rather than using buzzwords, go with spiritual principles.
- Include all viewpoints, including the newer member.
- Consider our common welfare.

The responses for **Collaboration** were related to the phrase “autonomy doesn’t mean we don’t collaborate” and included:

- The greater good is more important than the localized viewpoint.
- Diversity challenges certainty and encourages creativity.
- Working together produces better results.
- Mentor and train more efficiently.
- The spiritual nature of collaboration is close to that of service.

Jim explained how key messages have many uses, both inside and outside the fellowship, and thanked everyone for their help in this session.

**NAWS REPORT**

2:15 pm - 3:37 pm  
_**Session led by Ron M (WB Chair) and Anthony E (NAWS Executive Director)**_

This session was divided into two parts, with question and answer sessions after each part. The first session covered staff introductions, strategic planning, NAWS communications, and a NAWS Facebook presence. The second session covered _Living Clean_ and literature development, the na.org website, the removal of PDFs from na.org, and a brief WSC seating discussion.

Anthony E (NAWS Executive Director) showed photos of staff from the five NAWS offices and distribution centers, and asked the conference to thank them for their hard work. Participants responded with round of applause and a standing ovation.

**Strategic Planning**

Ron M (WB Chair) reviewed the strategic planning process, focusing on its cyclical nature and the progress that has been made in recent cycles towards a broader acceptance of planning in NA service. Ron reflected on how planning is used in several of his local sub-committees. Ron also offered some examples of the broad range of information that is reviewed as a part of the environmental scanning phase of the strategic plan.
NAWS Communications

Anthony reviewed improvements in NAWS communications, and thanked participants for continuing to encourage members to subscribe to electronic versions of NAWS publications. He offered the following data:

- *Just for Today* is received via email by over 52,000 members.
- Subscriptions to *NAWS News* continue to rise.
- There are 6,575 subscriptions to the paper version on *The NA Way Magazine*, and 15,468 electronic subscriptions.
- WSO Iran sold 25,000 copies of the April 2011 *NA Way*, although there doesn't appear to be the same willingness to pay for the magazine in North America.
- The NAWS Update eblast is received by over 80,000 subscribers. Although this would be an effective avenue to communicate about contributions, up to this point it has not been used this way, but this is a possibility in the future.

Anthony reported that *Reaching Out* has improved circulation due to being available electronically, but is in need of subscriptions from local H&I members. He also reviewed the web-based webinars or eMeetings that have been used for inmate step-writing committees and regional service offices, and offered some ideas for future possibilities. He commented that NAWS has limited contact information for local trusted servants, and often relies on delegates to communicate with them.

NAWS Facebook Presence

Ron H (WB) discussed the possibility of creating a NAWS Facebook page, sharing about his personal experience with social media. Ron reviewed the discussions on Facebook at the last WSC and the problems that were identified with its use and with preserving anonymity. The straw poll at WSC 2010 said no to a Facebook page, but Facebook has changed a lot. It would now be possible to receive updates from a NAWS page without compromising anonymity.

Ron H discussed how Facebook offers the possibility of communicating with thousands of members at once, and that the Board is intending to create a NAWS Facebook page that would only be for distributing information.

Question and Answer Section

Ron M then opened the question and answer portion of the session, stating that two minutes would be allowed for each question, and that each region could only ask one question.

NAWS Facebook Presence

In response to questions, Ron M confirmed that there would be a straw poll on a Facebook page on Saturday.

Concerns were raised about the ability to comment on a FB page, and the NAWS resources that would be required to monitor a page, Anthony responded that the Board is intending to discuss protocol for dealing with comments, but isn’t able to fully answer the question until it has been tried. It was suggested by a participant that it would be possible to create a page without the option to leave comments.

Some concerns were expressed about anonymity and internet privacy and how this could affect members directly. It was also expressed that public controversy could result from comments posted on a NAWS page, or how some posts on a NAWS page could be received in other cultures. Ron H (WB) responded that there would be an alternative offered to
Facebook, that users should review the terms of service; members can view a page without affiliating themselves to it. Ron H also stated that he believed that a disclaimer on the Facebook page would avoid any conflicts with the Sixth Tradition.

A suggestion was made to connect the NAWS discussion boards with Facebook as the discussion boards are an underutilized resource. Ron H responded that this was certainly possible. He also encouraged members with specific experience to contact NAWS.

Anthony and Ron M confirmed that NAWS would take a conservative and cautious approach with whatever is done on social media.

**World Board Contact**

Ron M clarified the email addresses for contacting staff or the Board as fsteam@na.org and wb@na.org. Ron H confirmed that the Board sees correspondence regularly. Ron M stated that delegates would be straw polled on Saturday to determine if they wanted to have assigned World Board liaison contacts.

**Webinars**

In response to a question about the webinars, Ron M explained that they were happening now. It was later explained that instructions about participating are emailed to those who sign up. Anthony responded to a question about what webinar technology we use and said we would be talking more about the most effective platform.

### NAWSS REPORT PART TWO

4:08 pm – 5:26 pm  
Session led by Ron M (WB Chair) and Anthony E (NAWS Executive Director)

Ron M (WB Chair) began by outlining what would be covered in the session:

- Living Clean and Our Lit Development
- Website Redesign
- Removal of PDFs from na.org
- WSC Seating
- Second Q&A

**Literature Development**

Ron M (WB Chair) began by discussing *Living Clean* and the literature development process, stating that *Living Clean* had a high level of participation from the beginning of the project. Technology played a large part in this, and will continue to be used for future literature development projects.

**www.na.org**

Anthony E (NAWS Executive Director) went on to discuss the na.org website. The meeting search page is the busiest part of na.org, although efforts have been made to promote local websites as a source for more accurate meeting information, and to connect with local web servants.

The existing www.na.org site currently averages between nine and ten million hits per month and had around 500,000 monthly visitors. Anthony showed the beta version of na.org that has been created to answer concerns that the previous homepage was too busy. The new site will also utilize Google
search to map meeting locations. A mobile version of the site is also being designed for hand-held devices. An NA app and electronic versions of the Basic Text and *It Works: How and Why* are also under development. The redesigned site is expected to be launched in July.

Anthony also mentioned the IT blog and the simplification of the NAWS database import/export process to make it easier to cooperate with local committees. IT has become increasingly important, Anthony said, and now it has its own key result area in the NAWS Strategic Plan. Anthony also reminded everyone to send details of shining stars in their communities to NAWS.

**Literature pdfs Online**

Anthony discussed the background of the removal of the literature pdfs from na.org, explaining how literature was first posted in 2002, with the Basic Text and *It Works: How and Why* being posted in 2007. These were downloaded 3,850,000 and 655,000 times respectively, and this could have contributed at least in part to the decrease in sales of those titles. Anthony also stated that there seemed to be a proliferation of the sharing of this material without regard for the consequences, including the widespread sharing of literature that goes far beyond the original intent of posting it online.

Anthony emphasized that the fellowship had been informed from the beginning that online literature would be removed if there were problems. He referred to page 36 of the 2001-2002 Annual Report:

> We have posted a limited number of NA literature items on www.na.org for the benefit of the fellowship. As you know, we have been alerting you of our intent to do this for some time and we are very excited about it, but if we encounter infringement problems and/or significant new legal expenses or other problems because of this experiment, we won’t hesitate to back away from this test.

He explained that the process that guides handling copyright infringement of NA literature gives every opportunity for members to refrain from behavior that threatens the ownership of NA’s intellectual property. On occasion, after many friendly attempts, NAWS has been forced to consult an attorney after repeated refusals to cease unauthorized behavior. He clarified that NAWS has first to consult regional delegates before legally pursuing an NA member. He asked delegates for their assistance in NAWS’ task to protect fellowship property, and reminded them that NA members are the most effective means our fellowship has of protecting fellowship property.

The informational pamphlets and Introductory Guide to NA are still online.

**WSC Seating**

Ron M offered some basic facts about seating, including:

- The policy adopted in 2000 has never been embraced by the conference.
- The proposed moratorium on all seating failed in 2010 by a single vote.
- The moratorium on regions resulting from splits expires at the conclusion of WSC 2012.
- Resolution 8 was adopted at this conference, although there is still work to be done.

There are ten to fifteen regions that are expected to apply for seating and Ron asked how do we fund this, physically host this and support this? He asked for a focused discussion over the upcoming cycle, and stated that the Board’s recommendation is to not seat any new regions at the 2014 WSC.
**Question and Answer Section**

Ron M opened the question and answer portion of the session.

**Literature pdfs Online**

Anthony clarified that the literature pdfs are mostly proliferated by NA members, and that NAWS is required to protect the fellowship’s intellectual property and to protect our primary revenue source for the delivery of services. He explained that it costs money to carry our message. As long as we are dependent on literature sales to fund services, that income stream must also be protected.

Anthony affirmed that the approval draft of *Living Clean* would be removed from the website shortly, and would not be available as a part of the archive of previous CARs.

**Literature Development**

Anthony offered further detail on the development of electronic literature by stating that they would be compatible with 90% of handheld devices, and that NAWS was planning to distribute through iTunes and Amazon as they are the most prevalent distribution portals. He also confirmed that the NA app would be available first for iPhones, and then for Android.

**www.na.org**

Anthony clarified that the discussion boards are not compatible with mobile devices. The participant who asked that question also shared that Facebook allowed for back and forth conversations in a way that the discussion boards do not, and that this was helpful.

A question was asked whether it would be possible to offer translated versions of online surveys. Anthony responded that the technology for this would have to be looked into. It was a complicated issue with automated database entry.

**WSC Seating, Alternate Attendance, and The Future of the Conference**

Ron M elaborated on the recent history of how the seating policy approved in 2000 had not been consistently applied; regions that were not recommended by the seating workgroup have been seated by the conference, and regions have been seated during the moratorium.

One participant expressed her view that the possibility of ADs not attending the WSC seems to go against the training and mentoring spoken of in the resolution we passed this week, and is there a way to hear from unseated regions at the WSC. Ron M stated conference policy takes some time, so we are recommending no seating at this time until we can make some of those decisions. The Board has not discussed the option of receiving input from unseated regions. It was suggested by one participant that zonal seating may provide a solution to some of the issues at the WSC, while another asked when we would start to reduce the number of US regions. Another delegate shared how 64% of the groups in their country were not in seated regions as their country had experienced significant growth. The issue of the difficulty the increased size of the WSC posed to effective decision-making was also raised. Ron responded by restating that the World Board was hoping for ideas and discussion during the upcoming cycle.

Several participants raised the suggestion that we return to the system of only funding delegates if their regions requested financial assistance, or at least that regions should pay some of the expense. Another delegate shared how her region received funding because that was the way they had always done it, until they made a decision to fund themselves, and that this was a reflection of the groups’ practice of funding themselves to attend the ASC. Another delegate shared how groups in their region are assisted financially to attend
Ron M confirmed that NAWS would accept contributions from regions at any time.

In response to a question, Anthony clarified that alternate venues for the WSC were being looked at for a variety of reasons, including the expiration of the contract with the current facility and an issue with overcrowding and fire regulations. He also stated that the current location offers a range of amenities that others do not. He confirmed that any suggested change to the policy that the WSC be within 75 miles from the WSO would most likely be in the CAT, although it might also be considered of enough importance to NA groups that it would be included in the CAR.

He responded to a question by stating that the financial impact of seating new regions was impossible to estimate without knowing where the region was located.

The idea of a contribution button at the checkout of the shopping cart was offered.

### Delegates Sharing on Local Issues: Planning

**6:00 pm – 7:14 pm**

*Session led by Liz B (RD UK) and Caleb B (RD Minnesota)*

Liz B (RD UK) opened the session by stating that the topic of the session would be planning, that it had been identified from regional reports, and that regions had a wide range of experiences with the practice.

Caleb B (RD Minnesota) continued by describing Minnesota’s local planning process, and how it had led to the creation of a “Bridging the Gap” program in the region that connected NA volunteers with new NA members being released from institutions.

Liz talked about how some areas in her region planned and others didn’t. She also shared that the regional PI subcommittee created a five-year plan that is adjusted regularly. Environmental scanning in the UK region revealed that doctors and treatment centers are unaware of NA, so the committee responded by increasing attendance at professional events focused on these professions. Liaison positions were also created to provide support to local PI sub-committees and to communicate with the government, including the National Treatment Agency. The NTA now distributes information about NA and Basic Texts to all the treatment facilities in the UK.

**Overview of Planning Basics**

Caleb and Liz provided an overview of *Planning Basics* along with examples based on their experience:

**Who Plans:** All members can participate—trusted servants and other members of the fellowship.

**Decide Planning is a Priority:** In the Minnesota Region, they conduct a survey to determine what they’re going to do and then develop a planning and communications calendar.

**Choose a Workgroup or Coordinator:** The Minnesota Region seeks members with experience and expertise in that particular area and they are supported by recruiting workgroup members.

**Scanning:** Liz noted that the scanning process includes considering ideas, topics, and issues, which was how the UK identified a gap of information being provided to treatment professionals.
**All Ideas and Topics Collected:** Review and brainstorm to clarify issues and identify anything that was missed.

**Prioritize Issues:** In the UK process, an annual membership survey is conducted and the results are published, which is a tool used when meeting with professionals.

**Develop Goals to Address the Prioritized Issues:** Caleb explained that Minnesota’s goal-setting efforts help them decide what they want to accomplish—to welcome and integrate newcomers into NA.

**Consider Available Resources:** In planning for the Minnesota Region’s “Bridging the Gap” program, they considered what funds and manpower would be needed and what is available.

**Choose Who is Going to Address and Develop Action Plans:** In the Minnesota Region’s example, the action plan is developed all together with the fellowship services team in the region.

**Monitor and Evaluate:** Liz was not aware of the steps the UK PI subcommittee takes for monitoring and evaluating, but indicated that their organized approach must include this.

**Small Group Exercise**

Liz explained that any of the planning steps can be a stumbling block, especially if they are missed. Each table was asked to take ten minutes in their small groups to identify any stumbling blocks they may have encountered and then to prioritize the top two.

Then, using the top two identified planning challenges, the participants were asked to spend 20 minutes to develop an action plan to resolve them. They were directed to details of how to create an action plan on page 8 of *Planning Basics*.

**Small Group Feedback**

Action plans offered for *Decide Planning is a Priority* included:

- Get areas involved, plan a workshop, and get GSRs involved. Read *Planning Basics*, train members, ask members what is important, prioritize the work on a timeline, develop workgroups, and carry out the projects. Expenses included the cost of a venue and food.
- Communicate in the region how successful we could be by using the planning process immediately after the WSC through emailing all the participants in the RSC. This would take about five hours and cost nothing.
- Be creative with RD team reports, through approaches such as using PowerPoints to provide more interesting reports.
- Attract participants to the process with food and gifts.
- Take an “each one teach one” approach to personally involve and mentor members.
- Hold speaker jams and put on skits.
- Let members know that service commitments on projects can be 30 or 90 days long.
- Provide some recognition for members once the task is complete.
Action plans offered for **Scanning** included:

- Involve newcomers by having them “compete” with longer-term members to identify issues and fresh approaches for solutions. These are prioritized by applauding for the “best” issues.
- Take time to scan before establishing committees or project without knowing what the community really needs. Identify who is missing from our meetings. Talk to community agencies and leaders to find out where we are needed and what services are needed (translations, etc.).
- Contact community agencies and leaders to share information about NA and find out where we are needed and what services are needed.
- Establish meetings in underserved neighborhoods.
- Monitor and evaluate progress.

Action plans offered for **Consider Available Resources** included:

- Recruit members for specific tasks, utilizing what skills they may have.
- Try to increase human resources. Have learning days, themed workshops, and attract members from areas with a sushi party. Write letters and ask oldtimers to contribute their experience. Identifying shining stars to do PR work.

Action plans offered for **Monitor and Evaluate** included:

- Have different levels of the service system assess other levels. For example, groups assess area, area assess regions, etc.
- Provide mentorship and guidance for the work to be done with periodic checkpoints to determine progress, gaps, and resources needed.

Other experience shared included the use of a “master plan” for the region with a weekly schedule, and the holding of FD workgroups in targeted locations within a large zonal forum to mitigate problems of distance and connect newer regions with their more developed neighbors.

In closing the session Caleb asked how many have used *Planning Basics*: About 30 participants raised their hands. Members were asked to take the *Planning Basics* booklet home with them, have these discussions in their regions, and send their experiences to NAWS.

**Friday, 4 May**

**FELLOWSHIP DEVELOPMENT**

*9:04 am – 10:46 am*

*Session led by Becky M (NAWS Assistant ED) and Tom McC (WB)*

Becky M (NAWS Assistant ED) began by explaining that this session was designed to report on the travel we undertake to provide direct support to NA communities in fulfilling their primary purpose. Almost a quarter of the NAWS budget is dedicated to fellowship development. Key FD resources are planning, public relations, translated literature, NA communities working together and with NAWS, and one addict helping another. The events we organize and attend are only a part of the larger fellowship-wide effort to fulfill the first bullet point of A Vision for NA Service.

> “Every addict in the world has the chance to experience our message in his or her own language and culture and find the opportunity for a new way of life…”
Becky discussed A Vision for NA Service, and how each part is important to fellowship development. The idea of having NA meetings in 74 languages wasn't even considered in NA years ago. There are currently 23 book-length pieces being translated, and 16 of these are the Basic Text. She reviewed the complexity of the translation process, and the necessity of having members involved who understand recovery and speak the language being worked on. She asked participants who have translation experience to raise their hands, and she asked conference participants to talk with those individuals about their personal experience. The expenses related to professional translators have risen four-fold over recent years, especially as the dollar has weakened overseas.

We have been able to keep the cost of free and subsidized literature the same over the last fiscal year for the first time in many, many years because we have been producing literature locally in places like Russia, India, and Brazil. Becky reviewed figures from the environmental scan that showed the amount of literature sold in the main languages, and pointed out that 90% of this literature is in English or Farsi. This also means that 90% of our FD efforts are funded by the US.

Our regional map (see Appendix B, page 74 shows that the slowest growth of NA is in the US, Becky said. At NAWS, we spend a tremendous amount of time thinking about how we can help because we know we haven’t reached everybody we need to reach.

Becky reviewed the decline in the expenditure on face-to-face workshops since 2004, but also reflected how this has had the positive effect of meaning we have to plan and communicate better.

_Africa_

Becky introduced David W, a long-time member who travels in Africa for his work, to share some of his experience. He began by reviewing some of the history of NA in South and East Africa, with a focus on Kenya and Tanzania. The growth of NA in Kenya was minimal from its beginnings in the early 1990s, and the meetings David attended seemed to be a mix between AA and NA. In 2008 a US government delegation was sent to Zanzibar to help with a heroin epidemic there. Zanzibar is an island off the coast of Tanzania and is a Muslim community. One of the members of the delegation was also an NA member who took the opportunity to introduce NA to Zanzibar. Recovery houses, an alternative to treatment programs as we know them, began to open as safe places for addicts to live while in early recovery. These have increased in number until there are currently eleven houses, with about 12 to 15 addicts living in each. One of the houses is for women.

David showed slides of the Twelve Steps and _Just for Today_ translated into Swahili by the residents of one of the recovery houses. He also showed a picture of the Zanzibar Vice-President, who is a prominent supporter of NA.

David went on to discuss how NA spread to the mainland in Tanzania in Dar es Salaam, and then to Dodoma. He shared how vital it is to have literature in Swahili available for NA members. David went on to review the translations workshops that he participated in during 2012. He thanked NAWS staff for their help in holding eight workshops over 21 days in seven cities and two countries. The workshops resulted in reaching consensus on translations of IP# 1, 7, 16, and 22 that were acceptable in both Kenya and Tanzania.

David closed by reviewing the growth of NA in Tanzania, and by showing pictures of local members and meetings.


**Latin America**

Becky then talked about Latin America beginning by reflecting how she visited the zone many times in the late 1980s and early 1990s and had witnessed some of their early struggles. It’s been a pleasure this year to see some of the LAZF’s more recent successes with Skype workshops and FD. Becky said she takes her hat off to that zonal forum and to Johnny, at NAWS who is in regular communication with them. You get a sense of how much they are growing from the number of delegates here, Becky said. She shared the story of how she and Jane N (NAWS PR Manager) had met the former president of the International Society of Addiction Medicine (ISAM) at their 2010 conference in Italy, who up to that point had no accurate knowledge of NA. This meeting provided an opportunity to develop a relationship between him and NAWS. He subsequently visited Cuba to advise the government on addiction, found the underground NA meeting, and encouraged the Cuban Government to stop making NA illegal in Cuba. The LAZF and members from surrounding regions have been able to begin helping NA to grow in Cuba. A video from a Cuban member was shown.

Becky closed with a slide show of other activities and events in the zone including an LAZF meeting in Guatemala; an FD workshop in Cuba, a workshop in Puerto Rico; and the Panama, Honduras, and Mexico Occidente regional conventions.

**Asia Pacific**

Becky introduced Tom McC (WB) who talked about the growth of NA in the Asia Pacific Forum (APF). The APF started, Tom explained, when many non-US countries became frustrated with the excessive number of motions coming from the US regions at the WSC. They decided they needed a forum to focus on their own needs. Tom showed a video of a member from China. The Chinese government does not support NA, so consistent PR work with government and medical authorities is vital for growth.

Tom reviewed NAWS attendance at zonal forum meetings in Bahrain and Bangladesh. As in previous cycles, NAWS has attempted to attend multiple events in single trips, including the Bangladesh and Nepal conventions. He shared some of the physical difficulties in attending meetings in countries like Bangladesh, and the challenges that NA faces there.

There are growing NA communities in Bhutan and Nepal. The upcoming APF in the NERF Region is particularly exciting because travel there has only recently become possible. Tom also discussed India and the efforts of NAWS staff to support the fellowship and run the distribution center there.

Tom then showed slides of the Aotearoa New Zealand Regional Assembly that we were able to attend, welcome keytags in Maori, and a workshop in Malaysia that we held while also attending the International Federation of Non-Governmental Organizations. Tom closed by reflecting on how NA in Indonesia had gone from 200 to 300 members to almost none, and that a NAWS workshop in a previous cycle has seemingly reignited recovery there.

Becky added that the percentage of NA members in New Zealand who are Maori is greater than the percentage of indigenous people in New Zealand society as a whole. Becky said she doesn’t know of anywhere else in the world where that’s true.
Middle East

Becky continued the session by reviewing developments in the Middle East. NAWS has planned to support what we can for the smaller communities in the Middle East, but this whole part of the world is supported by the two strongest communities – Egypt and Iran. NAWS organized the first meeting of Middle East NA communities in 2000, and although progress was slow, an Arabic Literature Translation Committee (LTC) was formed. Becky discussed some of the cultural differences between the Arabic-speaking nations, and how a face-to-face meeting of the Arabic LTC in Kuwait, organized and funded by NAWS in 2011, enabled them to overcome these differences and make progress by first agreeing to a single glossary. This led to an Arabic Basic Text that is used throughout the Arabic-speaking world.

Becky briefly discussed the growth of NA in Iran, highlighting the large response of NA members in Iran to the recent literature survey, and the PR efforts there. Initial contact with Iranian members came through the Middle East meeting, and led to the creation of the WSO branch office in Iran.

NAWS was able to assist NA in Egypt by hiring an attorney to help them create a legal association, which is required for any group of larger than three people who wish to meet in Egypt. Prior to this, NA groups had been forced to meet in treatment centers. Becky said that the intent of this assistance was to avoid “putting out fires further down the road.” Good communications with Egypt and Iran have enabled NAWS to provide the right assistance when needed.

As with other parts of the world, each trip to the Middle East served several purposes including fellowship workshops and PR activities in Kuwait. These included a TV interview, two press conferences, and meetings with the National Office of Drug Control and the National Treatment Center. Becky stressed that while NAWS may have the ability to open doors in this way; it is up to the local community to keep them open.

Canada and the USA

Tom reported on efforts in Canada and the US. He began by commenting that he had heard in recent years that membership growth in the US was static or declining and that NAWS was only doing fellowship development in other countries.

Tom offered some thoughts about US growth. He suggested that some of the struggles in the US may be more about personal recovery, and that it is be up to a new generation to refocus on the fact that it isn’t about us, but is about those yet to come. As Tom spoke, slides depicting travel in the US and Canada identified that NAWS attended:

- Eleven zonal forum meetings. This is eight fewer than we attended last cycle; however, we attended eight CAR workshops at zonal forums, which is the same number as last cycle.
- Six service events and three conventions. This is ten fewer service events than last cycle. We still attended larger events like MARLCNA, WSLD, and the FSS, but were often unable to attend smaller more local events. This is also one fewer convention, although we were able to attend two Spanish-speaking events in Southern California.
• Six NAWS events. Around 1,000 members attended the five service system workshops in the US.
• One World Convention and six WCNA planning trips.

Some of the statistics Tom reported for WCNA 34 included:
• 13,000 members from 47 countries attended the convention.
• 900 newcomer registrations.
• 33 California institutions on Unity Day call with 8,000 incarcerated addicts participating.
• 84 meetings and workshops.
• Over 2,000 volunteers.

Europe

Becky shared how she hoped that this session had helped to broaden everyone’s understanding of what FD is. She went on to review events in Europe, including attendance at the EDM, which is about more than just going to the zonal forum. These trips help us resolve translations issues because of the number of communities and language around the table, and we meet with the branch managers from Brussels and Tehran during our EDM trips. Becky highlighted the principles of collaboration and communication by explaining how NAWS was able to support a Planning Basics workshop in Italy held by the EDM by facilitating the translation of the necessary resources. By working together we can achieve anything, Becky said.

Becky went on to discuss the challenge and opportunity of Russia by first reflecting on the first NAWS trip to Moscow in 1994, and the difficulties encountered. There have been four Russian-speaking workshops since 2002 in various countries that share the language. Becky highlighted the importance of a reliable literature supply and the invaluable help of the local RD, Andrey G (RD Western Russia), who continued the session by first showing a video “hello” from NA members in Siberia.

Andrey went on to review the history of NA in Russia. NA began in Moscow 28 years ago. NA in Ukraine started about 25 years ago. There is a history of collaboration amongst the communities. The Western Russia Region was founded in 2002 and the EDM was very helpful early on. NAWS held a workshop in St. Petersburg in 2004 for Russian members where ideas such as anonymity, PR, and a service structure were introduced. The Western Russia Region began to support NA in Siberia in collaboration with NAWS, and in eight years NA in Russia has grown from just over 100 meetings to over 900 meetings a week. In July 2011, 100 local members from Siberia attended a workshop facilitated by NAWS.

Andrey shared about some of the challenges with FD in Russia. There are nine time zones and it takes ten hours to fly across the continent. There are challenges with literature distribution, and many neighboring countries such as Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and Uzbekistan need help. FD workshops have covered essential topics like the difference between AA and NA, how to form an ASC, and how to be self-supporting. For one particular workshop in Vladivostok, members travelled on the train for six days to reach the city as flights were too expensive.

Andrey closed the session by reminding everyone that the European Convention will be held in Moscow in August this year, and that this is regarded as an FD event. It is the first time that the convention will be held in Russia.
THE ROLE OF ZONES

11:08 am – 12:23 pm
Session led by Jim B (WB) and Franney J (WB)

Participants were seated at tables with other members of their zones. Franney J (WB) began the session by sharing some ideas about the current role of zones:

- Zones vary widely in their functions and roles.
- The role of zones in a system of service delivery is a broader conversation we need to have, and today we're trying to have a small piece of it.
- Zones provide an opportunity for NAWS to communicate with regions between conferences.
- Zones also provide an opportunity to interact with members involved in local service.
- Although the workshop budget has been reduced, we still travel to zones. This session is to talk together about how those trips can be more effective and to focus on service delivery and fellowship development efforts.

Franney asked participants what role NAWS has played in their zone. Some of the things shared included:

- NAWS provides workshops such as “train the trainer” sessions, and additional information that helps delegates to be better prepared.
- NAWS has given financial support for zonal meetings until they become self-supporting.
- The zonal forums have been a good place for NAWS to interact with communities that are not able to visit the US due to visa issues.
- NAWS has provided informative CAR and CAT workshops, as well as sessions related to literature development.
- Participants have received assistance with strategic planning, creating workgroups for projects, and facilitating workshops at events.

Franney introduced Jim B (WB) who continued the session by discussing how important attendance at zones has been for NAWS, and how this will continue. Because our travel budget has been more limited, we are trying to make our travel to zones more effective.

Jim introduced a small group exercise, asking each table to what kinds of partnership might be possible between zones and world services for cooperative workshops for this cycle only. He offered the example of scheduling workshops that included local members on a Saturday, and holding the zone’s business meeting on Sunday. He explained that participants had been seated with other members of their zone because agenda and time constraints vary from zone to zone.

Small Group Feedback

Feedback from the small groups for the zonal needs and objectives that NAWS could help fulfill included that NAWS could:

- Hold more workshops on what’s next with IDTs, translations, communication, collaboration, social media, the use of IT, the role of the RD, and WSC preparation.
- Help with transitioning to a new service system, using planning, synchronizing, planning cycles, developing a planning culture, and preparing for the WSC.
- Help with PR training and PR activity with drug courts, medical professionals, rehabilitation centers, and large-scale professional conferences.
- Through attendance at zonal forums, help improve interaction with non-seated regions, interaction between the zone and local members, and communication between zonal meetings.
- Partner with zones on fellowship development by providing human and financial resources, and hold workshops to discuss ways to better achieve this.
- We need help making better use of technology.
- Help with discussing the influence of the proliferation of conventions.

Feedback from the small groups for how zones might help included that the zone could:
- Contribute financially to NAWS’ expenses. One idea for this was to ask the host region to contribute to NAWS the amount of money they would have spent if they had travelled, minus the cost of hosting the event. The zones could also collaborate to fund NAWS, or have fundraising events.
- Provide human resources, lodging, transportation, food, and logistical planning. We can also spread the word about the event, and provide unconditional love.
- Survey the regions in the zone to determine their needs.
- Explore creative ways to draw in more local members, such as more creative choices of venues like hospital auditoriums and movie theatres, the use of technology to facilitate virtual attendance by both the Board and other members, and combining zonal meetings with a major convention.
- Participate in a follow up webinar to evaluate the zonal meeting.
- Hold zone-wide events such as CAR workshops, and start a zone-wide publication.
- Look at the events within the community and consider combining those with the same purpose in order to save money.
- Invite NAWS, extend their meeting time, make space for NAWS on the agenda, and support NAWS involvement in agenda development.
- Keep NAWS informed of what’s happening locally.

[Note: Full copies of these small group discussion notes are available on request.]

Franney continued the session by leading a discussion on ideas to move forward, such as giving more advance notice of agendas, considering whether zones would be willing to meet on Fridays and Sundays so workshops for the local fellowship could be held on Saturday, and renting larger venues for meetings.

Jim reviewed some of the feedback from the small groups, such as the importance of planning together to meet the needs of the communities within the zone.

**NEW BUSINESS DISCUSSION**

2:03 pm – 9:10 pm  
*Session led by Jack H (WSC CF) and Marc G (WSC CF)*

Roll call #5 was conducted [See Appendix A] by Marc G (WSC CF), showing 126 participants present (111 regions), 84 represents a 2/3 majority, 64 represents a simple majority.

Jack H (WSC CF) opened the session by discussing how the old business session went and offering some ideas for the upcoming session:
- There are 31 new business items to deal with in this session (seven CAT motions, eight straw polls, and 16 regional proposals), so participants will have to be mindful of how time is used. He referred to a previous estimate of the conference costing approximately $200/minute and offered that, if we meet until 12:30 am, with a 90-minute dinner break and two half-hour breaks, we
will have eight hours to address these 31 items. He also pointed out that if each conference participant spoke five times for three minutes each time, the body could be assured of 32 ½ hours of uninterrupted speaking. He implored participants to be mindful of the human and financial resources that could be spent during this session.

- During the discussion session there will be a two-minute time limit for speaking.
- The cofacilitators will remind anyone who speaks more than four times of how many times they have spoken, and will ask them to be mindful of how they use the time.
- If, in the cofacilitators’ judgment, the queue becomes too long, they will ask if there is any serious objection to closing the queue. There will be no use of the yellow cards during the discussion session.

**Motion 8:**

*To approve the Fellowship Issue Discussions project plan for inclusion in the 2012-2014 Narcotics Anonymous World Services, Inc. budget.*

Maker: World Board

*Straw poll: Strong support*

No further discussion.

Jack then explained that they would be discussing the regional proposals that could affect the Service System Project during this portion of the in order to not have to revisit the topic later. The project plan motion and the regional proposal that seek to affect the Service System Project will be called one after another. The maker will speak to each as it is called, the World Board will provide a response, and then each will be straw polled.

**Motion 9:**

*To approve the Service System project plan for inclusion in the 2010-2012 Narcotics Anonymous World Services, Inc. budget.*

Maker: World Board

No discussion and no further straw poll.

*Initial straw poll: Strong support by standing poll*

**Proposal AC:**

*The Service System Proposal be dropped from the budget of WSO.*

Intent: The SSP has the process backwards. If the fellowship saw a need to change the service structure we would have asked for it in the form of a motion, not instigated by the World Board.

Maker: Don M (RD Show-Me)

*Initial straw poll: Strong opposition*

**Proposal AG:**

*To give fellowship a full conference cycle to workshop, investigate, and trial implementation of the SSP. Results of efforts to be gathered at WSC 2014 for further action.*
Intent: to allow fellowship more of a reasonable time to workshop and try out resolutions/proposals before moving forward.

Maker: Kenny B (RD New Jersey)

Kenny spoke to the proposal, explaining that the workgroup decided to “blow up” the service structure without asking the fellowship, and he believes it would be more appropriate for this important decision to be tried, workshopped, investigated longer.

Ron M (WB Chair) responded that the Service System proposal is an evolution. Any systemic change would require a 2/3 vote to pass and agreement of the fellowship to be implemented. This is uncertain territory and will require communication and collaboration to move forward. Now that we have agreements in principle, we will develop tools for local communities to work with and communicate back to us so we can evolve information. Ron also reviewed the timeline for a conference cycle, stating that there are only 15 months between the first Board meeting after the WSC and the deadline for the CAR.

Initial straw poll: Strong opposition

Proposal AL:
That the elements of the SSP be offered as suggestions and options rather than instructions and mandates.

Intent: To be more in line with our spiritual principles, namely our 12 Traditions and 12 Concepts.

Maker: Jodi G (RD Southern Idaho)

Jodi spoke to the proposal, explaining the service system proposals say “when practical” and “where practical,” but the resolutions do not reflect the flexibility of the language in the proposals.

Ron M responded that tools, resources, service guides, etc, are typically seen as best practices rather than as a mandate. However, in an interdependent system that works together, it starts to become more difficult to see things as a suggestion without collaboration by all involved to adapt to best suit their needs. Something like conference seating is typically more policy driven and less flexible.

Initial straw poll: Typically more policy driven and less flexible

Proposal AH:
That any decisions regarding the SSP be included in the 2014 CAR and require 2/3 vote to pass.

Intent: To allow the fellowship’s full discussion, input, and conscience on this very important matter and ensure that the outcome is truly based on the fellowship’s collective conscience.

Maker: Jodi G (RD Southern Idaho)

Jodi spoke to the proposal explaining that a 2014 deadline was not the intent of the proposal. The proposal is offered because her region would like assurance that these important decisions will require a 2/3 vote, not a simple majority.

Ron M responded that we’re not sure what “any decision” means. For systemic changes, the Board is in full agreement with this and believes that this is already demonstrated by what they placed in the 2012 Conference Agenda Report.
to policy already require 2/3, but for something about process like *Planning Basics* it might not be necessary. NA service materials are a collection of best practices and not mandates.

*Initial straw poll: Strong opposition*

Discussion of the four proposals followed. One participant shared that the Service System Proposals don’t seem like a priority, given everything on the Board’s plate; perhaps the budget for the project should be reduced and the Board can develop the plan later.

The idea was offered that we learn best by doing, and that we will need to try out new ideas before grasping them. One participant talked about their experience of shared services between regions and areas. Another said they believed that if these proposals are implemented then the project will lose momentum and focus.

It was again asked whether there would be a 2/3 vote on the Service System Proposals at any point. Ron M repeated that changes to policy require a 2/3 vote. Ron M reminded participants that these resolutions are just to frame the work.

Jack reminded participants during the course of the discussion that all the proposals received strong opposition, and asked anyone whose point has been made to withdraw from the queue.

In response to a question about what the budgeted funds for the Service System Project would be spent on, Ron reviewed some of the contents of the Service System Project Plan.

*Final straw poll of Proposals AC, AG, AL, and AH: strong opposition*

*Straw poll on the idea to drastically reduce the Service System Project budget: Strong opposition*

Discussion then moved to Motion 9.

One participant suggested that more detail of the project’s budgets might be helpful. Anthony E (NAWS Executive Director) responded by stating that budgets used to be constructed that way and frequently drew criticism if a single line item was over budget. He stated that a budget with expenses grouped together allows some flexibility over a two-year conference cycle, but that the Board heard you and we will look into possibly providing more detail in the project plan budgets.

*Final straw poll on Motion 9: Strong support by standing poll.*

**Motion 10:**

*To approve the Traditions Book project plan for inclusion in the 2012-2014 Narcotics Anonymous World Services, Inc. budget.*

*Initial straw poll: Strong support.*

In response to questions regarding breakdown of the work over the next two conference cycles, Becky M (NAWS Assistant ED) clarified that the project plan only describes the work of the cycle ahead. There will be review and input, but not in this upcoming cycle.

*Final straw poll: Strong support.*

**Motion 11:**

*To approve the Public Relations project plan for inclusion in the 2012-2014 Narcotics Anonymous World Services, Inc. budget.*
**Straw poll:** Strong support.
No discussion and no further straw poll.

**Motion 12:**
To approve the *An Introduction to NA Meetings* project plan for inclusion in the 2012-2014 Narcotics Anonymous World Services, Inc. budget.

**Straw poll:** Strong support.
No discussion and no further straw poll.

**Motion 13:**
To approve the *Trusted Servant Support and Development* project plan for inclusion in the 2012-2014 Narcotics Anonymous World Services, Inc. budget.

**Straw poll:** Strong support.
No discussion and no further straw poll.

**Motion 14:**
To approve the 2012-2014 Narcotics Anonymous World Services, Inc. budget.

**Straw poll:** Strong support.
No discussion and no further straw poll.

**Proposal Z:**
WSO no longer provide staff at the WCNA and the World Board not be provided any sort of assistance or reimbursement for them to attend WCNA as well.

Intent: WCNA needs to return to a volunteer opportunity for its members and reduce expenses incurred by extravagant pay, travel, lodging, and meal expenses.

Maker: Don M (RD Show-Me)
Don spoke to the motion explaining that his region wants WCNA to return to a volunteer support model.

Ron M responded that this was not a realistic proposal for an event of this size.

**Straw poll:** Strong opposition.
No discussion and no further straw poll.

**Proposal AF:**
To discuss alternate ways the WSC participants can relax and fellowship together on (Wednesday) afternoon, instead of spending $22,000 to go to the ranch.

If we don’t reach any conclusions or alternatives at the WSC 2012 discussion, we would like the World Board to consider alternatives for the WSC 2014.

Intent: to look at being more prudent with our limited resources, while still having down time to recuperate and build unity.

Maker: Amanda M (RD Iowa)
Amanda explained that the proposal is intended to open a discussion. She feels the issue needs further examination.
Ron responded that he wasn’t sure what the alternatives will be even or where the next WSC will be given our size.

Initial straw poll: Opposition by standing poll.

In discussion, participants stated different ways that they found the ranch valuable to build community, unity, and a broader perspective. Others shared that they would rather take the afternoon off and use the money for other services such as translations and workshops, and that spending money on the ranch seemed contrary to our Eleventh Concept. One participant pointed out that the ranch is cheaper than the WSC matched for time.

Anthony clarified that the gross cost of the ranch is $22,503. When the money deducted from funded participants meal allowances, and the money received from the tickets ADs purchase are taken into account the net cost is $16,573.

Final straw poll: Opposition.

Proposal Y:
To recognize Siberia and Far East Region as a seated region at the end of WSC 2012.

Intent: This is a newly formed region and it has clear geographically determined boundaries. This region serves 7 Russian federal districts and fits the criteria established by Resolution 8, approved by the WSC 2012.

The request for seating was discussed at RSC meeting. The region has a working service structure, and all service positions are filled. Region does believe that they could add real value to the WSC with its uniqueness in the territorial extent of the service area (7,000km.) It was formed in November of 2008.

Maker: Andrey G (RD Western Russia)

Andrey spoke to the proposal explaining that while the World Board asked to not propose any new seats, to seat Siberia is to take a global perspective. The fellowship is growing in Russia, and this region being seated will help us move forward.

Ron responded that the World Board had recommended not seating any regions at WSC 2012 for reasons already stated.

Initial straw poll: Strong support by standing poll.

During discussion, participants reflected on the importance of seating new regions at the WSC, the history that the WSC has of agreeing not to seat new regions and then seating one when they show up, and that seating at the WSC is in a process of change. We should develop criteria and then follow through on them, emphasized one participant. Several participants mentioned other regions that are waiting to be seated, and the need to make decisions considering the whole fellowship and not seat regions before we figure out collectively.

Anthony stated that there was no list available of regions requesting seating, and explained that this was because of the desire to avoid giving an advantage to regions that had requested seating over those who had refrained from requesting seating because of the moratorium on seating regions resulting from a split.

Other participants expressed their belief that we should be inclusive and seat new regions, but it was also expressed that we needed to consider the financial implications of seating new regions. The idea of ceasing to fund US regions to offset the cost of seating new regions was offered.
In response to questions, Ron clarified that the vote at WSC 2010 to place a moratorium on all seating had failed by one vote.

**Final straw poll: Evenly split by standing poll.**

Later in the session, a standing straw poll on Proposal Y was taken, because the cofacilitators felt the voice straw poll was too close to call.

**Standing straw poll: Support. 55-60-6 (yes-no-abstain).**

**Proposal X:**

*Change GTWS, Page 3, line 31 to 33.*

That, in principle, regional delegates not be required to be absent (from the WSC floor) in order for their alternates to address the conference. (It is understood that only the RD or RDA would be able to speak on any one topic - not both).

Intent: To permit the RDA to address the conference without the need to have the RD leave the conference floor and to encourage mentorship.

Maker: Jim H (RD British Columbia)

Jim spoke to the proposal explaining that he did not believe the current policy was conducive to mentorship and teamwork.

Ron M said the World Board is not offering a recommendation and will support the will of the body.

**Initial straw poll: Strong support.**

**Proposal AI:**

While we agree that a region be allowed to speak only once to an issue, we propose that if the RD and AD agree, that the RD be allowed to remain on the floor while the AD speaks to an issue.

Intent: We believe the purpose of both AD and RD attending the WSC is to allow the AD to learn processes by watching and participating. We hold that an RD’s support is important, particularly when an AD speaks to the body. We hold that requiring the RD to leave makes the process awkward and difficult and restricts the process. We fail to understand the reason for the rule during our move toward less restrictive process.

Maker: Jodi G (RD Southern Idaho)

The maker and the World Board declined to speak to the proposal.

*The World Board offered no recommendation.*

Due to their similarity both Proposal X and Proposal AI were discussed together. Several participants shared that they believed the current process was too formal, and unhelpful for training and mentoring. Others found value in the process as it stands. One delegate pointed out that it encouraged him to see the alternate role as training. The inequity of some regions not having alternates was mentioned.

The concern was expressed that the language in Proposal AI “a region be allowed to speak only once to an issue” was a separate issue from requiring the RD to leave the floor.

It was requested that a straw poll be taken on whether the body supported the RD not having to leave the floor in order for the AD to speak.

**Straw poll on the RD not having to leave the floor for the AD to speak:** Strong support.
Ron confirmed that the will of the WSC as expressed in this discussion could be presented as changes to the WSC Rules of Order at the next conference.

*Final straw poll on Proposal X: Strong support.*

*Final straw poll on Proposal Al: Support.*

The cofacilitators stated that, in the spirit of the consensus experiment, they would adjust the process so that during the rest on the business discussion session there would be no need for RDs to leave the floor in order for ADs to speak. Each region still has only one voice.

**Proposal AJ:**

That the conference either adopt true consensus based decision making or return to parliamentary procedure rather than waffling between the two.

Intent: To reduce confusion, re-establish trust in the process, and be more consistent in our decision-making process.

Maker: Jodi G (RD Southern Idaho)

In speaking to the proposal Jodi referenced Motion 52 from WSC 2010 that was committed to the World Board. The maker clarified that “true consensus” requires a more clearly defined process that is more easily understood by all involved, including our fellowship as a whole, and this WSC did not appear to have one. Jodi listed many aspects of consensus-based decision making that are not part of WSC decision-making or are ill-defined. This is discussion-based decision making not CBDM, said Jodi.

Ron responded by reading from the section on CBDM in *A Guide to World Services in NA* that discusses how participants work together at the WSC to reach decisions.

*Initial straw poll: Strong opposition.*

In discussion, participants shared their ideas on how consensus at the WSC should work, including the points that:

- Consensus requires more than a 60/40 split.
- Giving an individual the right to veto or block is not practical.
- Pushing opinions is not how consensus works; surrender is an important part of the process.
- There has to be room for delegates to change the decision their region sends them with, which is a particular problem during old business. Discussing the possibility of changes in advance with local members was suggested as one way to achieve this.

A couple of participants said they appreciated the process during this new business discussion session, one adding that parliamentary procedure is alienating to many people.

Motion 67 passed at the 2002 WSC was referenced: “That the World Board define consensus for the WSC and develop guidelines for consensus-based decision making to be inserted into the WSC Rules of Order.” It was asked why this hasn’t been followed through on when it came to changes in the WSC Rules of Order.

Ron H (WB) responded that he believed that the section on CBDM in *A Guide to World Services in NA* was referenced in the WSC Rules of Order, and that this satisfied the direction from Motion 67. He went on to clarify that the World Board was only required to report on the disposition of committed motions, such as Motion 52, and that *NAWS News* had reported on the discussion of ideas related to Motion 52 in several issues.
Final straw poll: Strong opposition.

Proposal AK:
To improve the process of electing trusted servants to WB, HRP, and Co-fac positions by providing either a live (if at the conference) or recorded (if not present at the conference) interview early in the conference week.

Intent: To give us the opportunity to practice Concept 4 by allowing us to be more informed about the trusted servants we are considering.

Maker: Jodi G (RD Southern Idaho)

Jodi spoke to the proposal, explaining that it would help in our “carefully selecting trusted servants” and that it was not possible to determine the qualities for a good cofacilitator, for instance, from a piece of paper.

Ron M responded that the Board supports all ideas to improve the election process, but this idea had not been supported at WSC 2010. He also stated that he believed that questions from the floor to candidates had not served the WSC in the past.

Initial straw poll: Strong opposition.

In discussion, several participants expressed confidence with the HRP process and suggested we continue to utilize it. One delegate shared his concern with anonymity and said he would prefer the current practice of including photos be discontinued. Some participants shared that they thought the process would add value, while others suggested more personal information from each candidate would be potentially useful. The question of how videos could be produced equally for all the candidates came up. Valerie D (HRP) stated that the HRP has not had an opportunity to explore this idea, but they are always looking at ways to improve the process.

Final straw poll: Strong opposition.

Proposal AD
That the World Board consider and allocating time on the agenda of WSC for zonal reports if the zones wish to present a report.

Intent: To enable the fellowship to be informed of the development and growth of emerging communities world-wide and how fellowship development is carried out within the zones.

Maker: Liz B (RD UK)

Liz spoke to the proposal stating that she felt the conference’s decision at the last WSC to remove zonal reports was hasty. The reports provided valuable additional information on FD and developing communities that are not seated at the WSC, and that first-hand information is preferable to written reports. She cited the video from Iran as evidence of the conference’s interest in this type of material.

Ron M responded that prioritization of WSC time is what is at stake. The feedback after WSC 2010 was that too many people were just reading their zonal reports from the Conference Report out loud during the zonal report session.

Straw poll: Support by standing poll.

In discussion, some participants expressed opposition for the proposal, largely based on time constraints. Others suggested presenting information from zones in different ways.
Ron H (WB) suggested that each zone be invited to submit a video up to a certain number of minutes to NAWS by a certain date, and those that do will have their video played at the conference at some point. A participant suggested straw polling this idea.

Straw poll on suggestion to allow zones to submit videos: Strong support.

Final straw poll on prop AD: Strong opposition.

Proposal AE:

WB gives recommendations in regional proposals in the CAR. Our proposal is that WB only gives important information about the proposal the more neutral as possible.

Intent: Let the regions be free to decide.

Maker: Cristiano D (RD Southern Brazil)

Cristiano spoke to the proposal stating that Board recommendations have too much influence.

Ron M responded that this has been debated many times, and the conference has expressed support for having Board recommendations before the WSC rather than on the floor.

Straw poll: Strong opposition.

No further discussion and no further straw poll.

Proposal AA:

The financial reporting for the WCNA be provided in a detailed form and not in a summary way.

Intent: We should demand the same type of financial accountability from every level of service. If the world convention can lose hundreds of thousands of dollars they should tell us exactly how they did it.

Maker: Don M (RD Show-Me)

Don spoke to the proposal and clarified that they were interested in knowing what makes money and what doesn’t at WCNA so that input can be offered.

Anthony E (NAWS ED) responded that he believes that the information we currently provide is adequate, and that the manpower required to produce an understandable report would be considerable as the billing is extremely complex for an event of the size of the World Convention.

Straw poll: Strong opposition.

No further discussion and no further straw poll.

Proposal AB:

All previous and future WSC and World Board minutes be posted on na.org for all members to view at their leisure.

Intent: How do we know that our trusted servants are being directly responsible to us if we are not provided the opportunity to view the minutes of the meeting?

Maker: Don M (RD Show-Me)

Don spoke to the proposal explaining that the members of his region apparently did not regard NAWS News as enough information and they wanted him to bring this proposal.
Ron M responded that even other nonprofits seeking transparency do not post minutes on the internet. We live in a litigious society. World Services has a long history of how ineffective minutes are as a form of communication. We spend a great deal of resources to get as much information as possible to the fellowship and to remain accountable to them through means such as NAWS News.

*Straw poll: Strong opposition.*

No further discussion and no further straw poll.

**Proposal AM:**

That a transparent communication process be created where all regional input given to the World Board toward the shaping of projects, proposals and CAR motions is viewable to all WSC participants.

Intent: So that the needs and perspective of all participants, in their own words, may be considered by each region regarding each decision item, project or proposal. Perhaps a transparent input process would encourage more input and a more creative process of the shaping of ideas between WSCs.

Maker: Craig S (RD Buckeye)

Craig spoke to the proposal stating that he hoped the proposal would help local communities become involved in consensus on WSC matters, and free up time at the WSC for other matters.

Ron responded that this idea seems similar to the Service System Project discussion boards which were underutilized.

Anthony asked Craig if the region was asking for a place for regions to post their input on active projects, and Craig said yes. Anthony replied that we would like to find out what did and didn't work for the service system board. Craig followed up explaining that's just one idea. The proposal is asking for some way to have these discussions on a continuous basis and not just during conference week.

*Initial straw poll: Strong opposition.*

In discussion, one participant shared experience with a password-protected local discussion forum. He suggested that if there were a site for conference participants that required a password to view, there might be more participation because it would create a more secure environment to share freely and openly. Anthony reiterated that, as indicated in the NAWS Report session, NAWS is always seeking to improve communication. When asked how wide the scope of this proposal was intended to be, Craig responded that this was just a broad idea; they were seeking a way to help shape a conscience between conferences. One manageable way might be just to seek input from RDs regarding specific projects.

*Final straw poll: strong opposition.*

Marc clarified that regional proposals from the CAR will not be included in the new business session, and cited several sources where this was published prior to the WSC, including the CAR itself.

**Discussion Process**

Jack offered a series of straw polls to get some guidance on the discussion process.

1. Did you like the two-minute time limit for speaking?
Straw poll: strong support.

2. Did you like no yellow cards in the new business discussion session?

Straw poll: strong support.

3. Do you like the cofacilitators suggesting the queue be closed?

Straw poll: Unanimous support.

4. Do you like the rules we used in the new business discussion tonight?

Straw poll: Strong support.

NEW BUSINESS DECISIONS

9:12 pm – 9:32 pm
Session led by Jack H (WSC CF) and Marc G (WSC CF)

Roll call #6 was conducted by Marc G (WSC CF) [See Appendix A], showing 126 participants (111 regions) present, 84 represents a 2/3 majority, 64 represents a simple majority.

[Note: The initial roll call count was 125 participants and 110 regions. One region checked in after the roll call.]

Jack H (WSC CF) opened by reviewing the rules of order.

M/S/F Appeal to the facilitator to suspend the rules to make a motion. Walt B (RD Free State)/Etta F (RD Central Atlantic)

Motion failed by 2/3 voice vote

Motion #8 It was M/C World Board

To approve the Fellowship Issue Discussions project plan for inclusion in the 2012-2014 Narcotics Anonymous World Services, Inc. budget.

Motion carried by voice vote

Motion #9 It was M/C World Board

To approve the Service System project plan for inclusion in the 2012-2014 Narcotics Anonymous World Services, Inc. budget.

Motion carried by voice vote

Motion #10 It was M/C World Board

To approve the Traditions Book project plan for inclusion in the 2012-2014 Narcotics Anonymous World Services, Inc. budget.

Motion carried by voice vote

Motion #11 It was M/C World Board

To approve the Public Relations project plan for inclusion in the 2012-2014 Narcotics Anonymous World Services, Inc. budget.

Motion carried by voice vote

Motion #12 It was M/C World Board

To approve the An Introduction to NA Meetings project plan for inclusion in the 2012-2014 Narcotics Anonymous World Services, Inc. budget

Motion carried by voice vote
Motion #13  It was M/C World Board
To approve the Trusted Servant Support and Development project plan for inclusion in the 2012-2014 Narcotics Anonymous World Services, Inc. budget.
Motion carried by voice vote

Motion #14  It was M/C World Board
To adopt the 2012-2014 Narcotics Anonymous World Services, Inc. budget
Motion carried by voice vote

SERVICE SYSTEM STRAW POLLS
9:55 pm – 10:33 pm
Session led by Jack H (WSC CF) and Marc G (WSC CF)
Jack explained that each straw poll would be taken by a standing count.

Proposal T
To amend straw poll H to use the word “mentor” as opposed to “train”.
Maker: Kenny B (RD New Jersey)
Jack H (WSC CF) stated that because it’s grammatically correct the straw poll will be to substitute the word “mentoring,” and that only RDs should participate as the service system straw polls were published in the CAR.
Straw poll: Support.

Straw Poll A
There is a small, neighborhood-sized body devoted to group needs. This group forum, which is typically not part of the delegation stream, is informal in nature and operates through conversation not formal decision making.
Straw poll: Support 53/37/9 (for-against-present but not voting)

Straw Poll B
Groups send a delegate quarterly to a local service planning meeting. One of those quarterly meetings is a general assembly where all interested members are encouraged to attend and input is given to help plan service activities for the cycle.
Straw poll: Support 65/37/6 (for-against-present but not voting)

Straw Poll C
Services are coordinated by a local service board and carried out by members, committees, and project workgroups who report to that board.
Straw poll: Support 76/31/2 (for-against-present but not voting)

Straw Poll D
Local service bodies follow county, city, or town boundaries, where practical. (They are much larger than the group forums mentioned above and in many cases larger than the current ASCs.)
Straw poll: Support 60/43/5 (for-against-present but not voting)

Straw Poll E
The boundaries of those local service bodies are agreed to at the state or national level.
Straw poll: Support 58/48/5 (for-against-present but not voting)
**Straw Poll F**
Planning cycles are synchronized from level to level (local to state to global) as well as across each level.

*Straw poll: Support 71/34/4 (for-against-present but not voting)*

**Straw Poll G**
When service needs cannot be accomplished effectively by local service bodies and state/national/province bodies, an intermediate level of service can be added.

*Straw poll: Support 71/36/4 (for-against-present but not voting)*

**Straw Poll H**
Most states, provinces, or countries have one state-, province- or nationwide service body that is responsible for state- or national-level public relations and coordinating efforts such as mentoring across local service bodies.

*Straw poll: Support 67/39/3 (for-against-present but not voting)*

**Straw Poll I**
Zonal boundaries are decided through a collaborative process with neighboring NA communities, other zones, and the WSC.

*Straw poll: Support 72/34/6 (for-against-present but not voting)*

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**Saturday, 5 May**

**WSC PROCESSES & MOVING FORWARD WITH A COMMON VISION**

9:32 am – 12:20 pm  
*Session led by Ron M (WB Chair) and Anthony E (NAWS Executive Director)*

Ron M (WB Chair) began the session by commenting on the historic actions of this conference. The purpose of this session is to review what worked and didn’t work during the week, assess the conference’s desires, and come to agreement on applying ideas and practices for the next WSC.

**Straw Poll Ground Rules**

Ron began by explaining the straw poll process in this session. Last conference we were able to make many decisions by unanimous consent in this session, he said. We plan to straw poll issues. If they receive close to unanimous agreement, we believe we can take action. If we have much less than that but have support, the board will work on that information to present something to WSC 2014.

Ron asked if this approach was okay with the body, and one participant registered dissent.

**Next Steps with CBDM at the WSC**

Do we want to continue the experiment begun at WSC 2012 - to use proposals rather than motions for regional ideas in the CAR and new business at WSC 2014?

*Straw poll: Strong support.*

Ron then proceeded to attempt to gauge support for limiting discussion in business sessions. Anthony E (NAWS ED) reviewed the ideas the body supported during previous sessions:

A two-minute limit for speaking
Straw poll: Strong support.

Cofacilitators suggesting the queue be closed

Straw poll: Unanimous support.

Discussion centered on whether it would be possible to establish limits by methods such as asking for permission to close the queue as had been done by the cofacilitators during the new business session, rather than having more binding rules that could negatively affect the consensus process. Anthony summarized that it seemed that the body supported the idea that consent should always be sought when trying to limit debate.

Are we willing to limit initial discussion on old business? If we seek the body’s concurrence for the specific limitations of debate/discussion?

Straw Poll: Strong support

Is there support for this in both old and new business sessions?

Straw Poll: No opposition was voiced.

After quite a bit of discussion about a proposed straw poll to gauge whether the body supported limiting the number of times a person could speak, Anthony said that he believes the straw polls conducted by the cofacilitators in the new business session, and those conducted earlier in this session, give enough information for the Board to move forward. He again emphasized that this session is not intended to set policy and that the process for evolving the WSC’s processes is fluid and ongoing.

WSC Seating

Do you support the World Board recommendation to not consider any region for seating at WSC 2014?

Standing straw poll: 41 in favor, 55 opposed.

The discussion that followed highlighted the dilemma the conference faces. The moratorium expires at the close of WSC 2012, and we have no seating criteria.

Ron M clarified: The body can decide at WSC 2014 to seat a region, and that region would be seated at WSC 2016. Moving forward seating regions with no seating guidelines does present a dilemma however. Resolution 8 begins to provide a direction for criteria, Ron M said.

A delegate pointed out that A Guide to World Services in NA, does states that “the World Board will continue to make recommendations to the conference on all regions requesting seating who do not result from a split from an already seated conference community,” and that is what he would like to see. Ron responded that the Board recommended to not seat any regions while they work on creating new criteria. He confirmed that the Board would collaborate on this process with delegates through NAWS News.

One delegate expressed the view that this is a very sensitive issue, and the more we talk about it, the more emotional the discussion seems to become.

In response to questions about why the body was being straw polled more than once about an issue and whether decisions were being made in this session, Ron M again confirmed that the intent of this session was to gauge the temperature of the conference on issues. Anthony further clarified that in a discussion based conference it is possible to reach decisions on some items, such as Proposal C, fairly easily. Other, more complex issues like WSC seating may require further clarification through discussion and straw polls. that the reality is that the seating policy prior to the moratorium will become active when the
moratorium expires at the end of the WSC, unless the conference takes action, so the Board is trying to get as much clarity as possible about how the conference feels about different aspects of the issue.

One delegate asked for more information on what the policy was before 2008 so he could make more informed decisions about whether the policy is good or whether we need something different. Ron M replied that the WSC had not consistently applied the policy at previous conferences. He said that, since we just passed a resolution related to seating, it would be logical to move forward with the creation of a policy that will fit with the service system decisions made at this conference.

The body recessed for a 20 minute break. When the body reconvened Ron asked:

**Continue the spirit of the existing moratorium for one cycle. (Do not consider regions resulting from a split.)**

*Standing straw poll: 73 in favor, 20 opposed.*

Ron confirmed that this would mean that regions resulting from a split would not be considered for seating, but new regions that conformed to geographic boundaries would be considered for seating.

Anthony stated his belief these discussions and straw polls have given the Board a clear indication of the body’s intent and they will report back to the conference.

Discussion continued on the possible specifics of seating criteria. One delegate said he believes Resolution 8 is clear and the conference seems to clearly support it. Another delegate asked how the body could begin discussing the specifics of seating criteria, and Ron M explained that could happen at WSC 2014.

It was pointed out by a US participant that many of these issues seem to be largely US issues and that the US regions should meet and discuss reunification and the possibility of not seating new US regions. A couple of delegates asked whether regions that combine and seek seating would make a seat available for a new region, and Anthony responded that the possibility of regions combining is separate from this discussion.

A delegate said she felt that we need to work together for a solution. We are getting bogged down with our feelings on this issue. Another delegate spoke to process of consensus-based decision making and his concerns that these straw polls don’t really achieve that process. CBDM begins with a major idea and we listen to each other’s concerns. If the idea is “How can we best serve our fellowship in the way that we make decisions at this level. In other words how do we join together,” then we listen to each other’s concerns. I believe these straw polls put out very narrow questions and don’t deal with these concerns.

**Proposal X**

Proposal X had strong support during the new business discussion session and was brought up again in the closing session to get consensus on how to implement the proposal.

**Proposal X**

*Change GTWS, Page 3, line 31 to 33.*

That, in principle, regional delegates not be required to be absent (from the WSC floor) in order for their alternates to address the conference. (It is understood that only the RD or RDA would be able to speak on any one topic - not both).*
Intent: To permit the RDA to address the conference without the need to have the RD leave the conference floor and to encourage mentorship.

Suggested addition to WSC Rules of Order:

“WSC Rules

1. Each conference participant has only one vote. RD alternates are considered to be the same “member” as their respective RD when acting as a participant. Either the RD or RDA—but not both—may speak on any one topic.”

Straw poll: Strong support with one dissenting voice.

In response to questions Anthony clarified that this is the sort of language that would be offered in the Conference Approval Track material as part of the revised Rules of Order.

**Early release of the Candidate Profile Reports**

Do you support doing this again?

*Straw poll: Strong support.*

In discussion it was confirmed that candidates would have the option to opt out of the early release of their CPR.

Concerns were expressed about the confidentiality of the documents. It was stated that a Facebook post had been made about a candidate, and that the information in the post had been received from a conference participant.

Mark W (HRP) responded that the HRP had not heard about any problems up to this point. Anthony asked that the HRP be allowed time to discuss and respond to concerns to determine what process changes might need to be made for the future. This straw poll was just intended to ask if releasing the CPRs early was valuable to participants.

**NAWS Facebook page**

Do you support a push-only NAWS Facebook page?

*Straw poll: Strong support.*

Anthony clarified that “push only” means that information is only sent out, and not received information back or initiating a dialog.

**Proposal C**

Proposal C had strong support during the old business discussion session and was brought up again in the closing session to get consensus on how to implement the proposal.

**Proposal C**

For Board Approved Service Pamphlets be clearly marked on front “Service Related Material and not intended to be read during recovery meetings.”

Intent: To further make it clear to fellowship that this is not Fellowship-approved literature and not intended for use in recovery meetings. We feel that the statement on the back in somewhat small print is not noticeable enough for members that may not know or understand the difference. That although this is explained in the GTWS that many members do not read that service handbook.

Proposed language to be placed on the front of service pamphlets: Board Approved Service Pamphlet—not intended to be read during recovery meetings.
Straw poll: Strong support

Anthony clarified that this would be added to new inventory, but existing inventory would be sold as-is.

Zonal Videos

Is there strong support for a 5-10 minute video opportunity for all zones? (If submitted by a given date, would be played during breaks and sessions at the WSC.)

Conference affirms—yes

Anthony asked if there was very strong support for zones being allowed to submit by a deadline a 5-10 minute video in lieu of having zonal reports on the floor of the conference, which would then be woven into the schedule of the WSC? (If submitted by a given date, would be played during breaks and sessions at the WSC.) The conference agreed that there was.

Conference Participant Bulletin Board

If the conference participant bulletin board was mobile friendly, would you use it?

Conference affirms—yes

Anthony responded to questions by stating that there needed to be multiple methods of disseminating information, and that participants wouldn’t be required to subscribe to a single source. He also confirmed that the board will function in the same way as before.

One participant stated that many conference participants use secret Facebook groups for discussions, but felt this wasn’t ideal. They went on to express concern about privacy and anonymity as the discussion board, while also suggesting that it be accessible to NA members if possible. Anthony indicated that he believes steps can be taken to protect privacy. The current settings are in place because the WSC previously indicated they wanted that resource available to everyone, but that different options could be examined if a greater level of security was required. An email would be sent detailing any changes so that participants could offer their thoughts.

It was suggested that providing a primer on how to use the bulletin board would encourage its use.
## APPENDIX A: ROLL CALLS

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<th>Region</th>
<th>Roll Call 1</th>
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Total participants present: 127 127 127 127 126 126
Number of regions present: 112 112 112 112 111 111
2/3 majority: 85 85 85 85 84 84
Simple majority: 64 64 64 64 64 64

Old Business - only RDs vote
Number of regions present: 112 112 112 112 / /
2/3 majority: 75 75 75 75 / /
Simple majority: 57 57 57 57 / /

Seated but Not Attending this Conference:
El Salvador
Le Nordet
SIRSCONA
APPENDIX B: REGIONAL MAP

Regions Around the World
Over 61,800 Weekly Meetings Worldwide
(May 2012)