

ACA SMR, WEB0120
Group Conscience Business Meeting

September 20, 2021

8:45 am

MINUTES

Attendees: There were 29 participants in attendance, at the start:

| | | | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------|--------------------|------------------|--------|
| Anita F., | Austine, | Barbara S (IL), | Bets, | Chris (Madison), | |
| Christy K (TX), | David S., | Jean, | Jennifer (Houston) | Joanne, | Jim R, |
| Katherine TX, | Kimberly, | Krista, | Linn (Sweden), | Margaret, | |
| Margot Toronto, | Mary Ellin, | Pam, | Pete D., | Paul K-F, | Robert |
| Steven, | Tammy, | Teresa, | Tom, | Vivienne C., | |
| Wendy (Montreal), | Wendy (Ontario) | | | | |

OPENING

1. Call to order: Meeting is called to order by Kimberly. at 8:45 am.

2. ACA Serenity Prayer: All invited to recite the ACA Serenity Prayer.

3. Call for service: Kimberly identified the service people for the meeting:

- Meeting secretary record-keeper: Jim R
- Timekeeper: Wendy C. (Followed by Barbara)
- Tradition of the month: unread
- Concept of the month: unread

REPORTS & BUSINESS

4. Reports: [19 Minutes]

Reports are no longer read during the group conscience meeting. They are posted on the website prior to the meeting for members to peruse.

Participants are offered an opportunity to raise questions concerning the reports posted online.

Treasurer:

- Term coming to an end – looking for the next Treasurer
- SMR could direct a percentage of our WSO contributions to an International Literature Scholarship Fund. More information is coming. Item added to new business.

Technical/Scheduling: 2 questions

- Robert stepping down, position to be filled.
- Comment: Saturday Tech Host position needs to be filled.

Communications: No questions

WSO Representative: **position vacant, no report**. Deadline for Proposals is September 30th.
Website: Question about Spam in our Comment section.

- Plugin available to deal with the challenges. Wendy offered to purchase the plugin (about \$15/month) since they don't take PayPal (our mode of transactions). Treasurer will reimburse through the \$300 annual set-aside for website costs.

Service Description Committee: No questions

5. Reading of the Motions of the August GC: [5 Minutes]

Of the 14 motions that carried, most were largely about accepting reports and extending the meeting, with two exceptions. These were read aloud:

Motion 21_820_1: Robert moves that the GC Chair and Secretary (for July) look at the inconclusive information surrounding **Motion 21_719_12** [*Austine moves that a committee be formed to address safety and to look at Question 10 of the Survey; Anita seconded. 6 in favor, 3 opposed. No mention of whether the motion carried*] asking for clarification. Wendy C. seconds. None opposed. Motion carries.

Motion 21_820_2: Paul moves to approve the Room Host position as presented. Seconded by Wendy C. No discussion, no opposition. The motion carries.

Motion 21_820_3: Paul moves to approve the position descriptions of the Tech Host, Meeting Chair, Newcomer Greeter and Newcomer Coordinator, amended to include the requirement of familiarity with the Common Elements, with link. Seconded by Robert F. No discussion, no opposition. The motion carries.

Motion 21_820_4: Paul moves to amend the previously approved descriptions of the GC Secretary, Treasurer and Communications Secretary to include the requirement of familiarity with the Common Elements. Seconded by Barbara. No discussion, no opposition. The motion carries.

Motion 21_820_5: Barbara moved that the person who authored the agenda item must be present for the item to be discussed. Seconded by Linn. Amended by Jim to read: that the person who authored the agenda item, or someone in concert with the author (a sponsor), must be present for the item to be discussed. All were in favor. Motion carries.

Motion 21_820_6: Jim moved that an item in old business may be tabled only twice (on an agenda 3 times) before it is removed from the agenda. Seconded by Wendy. Discussion: Is it only for creators not being present? Amended by Paul to read, that any item in old business that is up for discussion, yet lacks the representation of an author or sponsor, may be tabled only twice (on an agenda 3 times) before it is removed from the agenda. Hearing no opposition, the motion is carried.

Motion to accept the Motions from the August GC meeting, as published, Barbara. Seconded by Paul K-F. Minutes accepted.

6. Old Business: [29 Minutes]

AGENDA ITEM: Groups conscience length of application in order not to discuss at length a topic, it being voted and implemented and then it being questioned again 2 months later could we say that we trust the decision implementation without questioning it for 6 months/ 9 months/ a Year? - Anita

Anita is present.

Discussion:

- When the Group makes a decision, to provide stability, the decision should not be overturned too quickly.
- Questions raised about the weight or validity of a motion being adopted with few members present, hours into a business meeting.

Motion: A Group Conscience item shall only be discussed once every ‘time period’ (6 or 9 months). Robert.

- Not about monitoring the items on the agenda. Anything could be submitted. Rather, it is about honoring the decision of the Group.
- Possible danger in adopting a prohibition against allowing the change of opinion. BRB talks about substantial unanimity as a good measure of acceptance of proposals.
- Prefer 3 months, or 4.

Motion: A voted upon GC item can only be discussed again after ____ months. Robert.

- Caution called for given the history of motions being carried/tabled, and the effect on other items in the cue.
- Against. Doesn’t foster the feeling of being heard. We should move slowly.

Motion: Except in urgent situations, a motion that has been accepted will be instituted for 3 months, before being readdressed for a vote. Jim R. Amended by removing ‘Except in urgent situations’. Robert. Final version: A motion that has been accepted will be instituted for 3 months, before being readdressed for a vote. Anita. Seconded by Jim R. **Vote: Aye 3, Nay 9** (with 24 members present) Motion does not pass.

AGENDA ITEM: Need a standing position for group conscience meeting note taker. Term six months (?). Kimberly C.

Discussion:

- Against this. See this as a task, not a role. Typically, the Secretary performs this task.
- Great idea but would rather see this as a Corresponding Secretary requirement.

Agenda item withdrawn. May be best to address this issue in the Position Descriptions Committee.

Motion made to close the meeting. Barbara. Seconded by Robert.

CLOSING

7. Announcements and next meeting

- Our group may submit a proposal to WSO, as we did last year. The deadline is Sept. 30th.
- Reminder: We are looking for a WSO Representative. Additionally, the Technical/Scheduling Secretary and Treasurer are stepping down from their positions. Replacements are being sought.
- Next meeting – October 20th

8. Adjournment and closing prayer.

ACA SMR, WEB0120
Group Conscience Business Meeting
October 18, 2021
Meeting began at x:xx am

NEXT MONTH'S AGENDA

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. ACA Serenity Prayer**
- 3. Call for Service**
- 4. Reports**
- 5. Reading of the Motions**
- 6. Old Business**
- 7. New Business**
- 8. Announcements and Next Meeting**
- 9. Adjournment and Closing Prayer.**

Attendance – ask all members, participating or observing, to raise their virtual hand. Take a count and record names.

ATTENDANCE: There were xx participants in attendance, at the start:

OPENING

- 1. Call to Order:** Meeting is called to order by xx at 8:45 am.
- 2. ACA Serenity Prayer:** All invited to recite the ACA Serenity Prayer.
- 3. Call for Service:** Kimberly identified the service people for the meeting:
 - Recording Secretary:
 - Timekeeper:
 - Tradition of the month: Ask for Volunteer to read:
Adult Children of Alcoholics has no opinion on outside issues; hence the ACA name ought never be drawn into public controversy.
 - Concept of the month: Ask for Volunteer to read:
Every service responsibility should be matched by an equal service authority—the scope of such authority to be always well defined whether by tradition, by resolution, by specific job description, or by the Operating Policy and Procedures Manual and bylaws.

REPORTS & BUSINESS

4. Reports: [XX Minutes]

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Participants are offered an opportunity to raise questions concerning the reports posted online.

Treasurer:

Technical/Scheduling:
Communications:
WSO Representative:
Website:
Service Description Committee:

5. Reading of the Motions of the September GC: [0 Minutes]

No motions carried at last month's meeting.

6. Old Business: [XX Minutes] (*see below*)

7. New Business: [XX Minutes]

CLOSING

8. Announcements and Next Meeting

- Next meeting – November 15th

9. Adjournment and Closing Prayer

Next Month's Old Business

Items having been tabled twice:

- None

Items having been tabled once:

AGENDA ITEM: Any agenda item that changes the way the meeting functions be addressed then tabled and announced for one month so everyone had opportunity to engage in decision, Kimberly C.

- Jim R-That the Group discuss the creation of a Policy and Procedures Committee with the task of:
 1. Identifying existing procedures
 2. Comparing best practices of other entities
 3. Drafting a recommendation of policies and procedures for the Group to approve or amend.
- Suggestion to use Tony A's steps as a self-care reading in breakout rooms one day a week, Christy K

Additional items:

- Any meetings besides ad hoc committee meetings and business meetings be scheduled far out from time frame of SMR meeting not be back-to-back, Caitlyn
- Does the meeting support an in-person Delegate to attend the ACA WSO Annual Business Conference, next April in San Francisco? Robert F
- Does the Group support use of the SMR Zoom account to duplicate a daily meeting, at or around 10:30 ET, timed for the morning on the West Coast? Jim R
- Does the Group approve of the suggested changes to the meeting Script, as posted on the website as Script Review Pending Changes? Jim R
- Suggest we move autonomous Friday Boundaries meeting to their own zoom id and time slot (not a shared Id and timeslot with SMR), Barbara S.
- Motion log for both GC meetings, standing and ad hoc committee meetings and group care meetings. Kimberly C.
- Does the group want to move the GC Business meetings to an alternative time slot? I.e. Weekends? Austine
- Committee of at least 2 SMR members be formed to address the feedback given from Question 10 of the survey sent out earlier this year. Austine