

# The SMR Business Meeting

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June 16th, 2024

Opening Attendance:

1. Call to Order: Jim R The time: 8:52
2. Call to Service:
  - Business Meeting Chair: Shana
  - Recording Secretary: Jim R
  - Timekeeper – overall: Stephen
  - Timekeeper – for shares: Elly

## WELCOME

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3. The ACA Serenity Prayer
4. General Guidelines: Read by Shana
5. The Readings:
  - The Traditions were read by: Brenda [2:40]
  - The Commitments to Service (BRB, pg 601) were read by: Elly [1:50]

***[Note: to this point in the meeting - 9 minutes]***

## BUSINESS

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6. Adoption of the Business Agenda, as follows: *The Agenda was not formally adopted*
  - Approval of the Minutes
  - Reports
  - Old Business
  - New Business
7. Approval of Minutes: Staci; Second: Andy . Approved unopposed.
8. Reports: (found on our website at <https://www.acamorning.org/monthly-reports/>)
  - Treasurer: [Shana & Jim]
    - Contributions: \$395.35, Disbursements: \$300.00
    - CashApp is a bit of a challenge to compute, recently \$200 was disbursed directly to WSO
    - Has been Treasurer for 14 months, wondering about rotation of service.

Questions and comments: Discussion arose around purchase requests for the website - security and webform addons. Wendy and Shana will be in discussion of how that happens. Staci will attend. Originally the group moved that the website would have the ability to make purchases as needed for up to \$300. That amount could be reassessed.

  - Service Team: [ Laura ]
    - Introduced herself to the group. Wondered about the term of service. Was informed that this was a bit fluid.
  - Communications: [ Andy ]

- Also new to the position. Introduced herself. Is quite comfortable with communications and writing. Hopes to find support with the technical aspects of assembling a newsletter. Has ideas for expanding the newsletter.
- WSO Representative: [Vivienne]
  - Vivienne is attending a wedding. Staci was looking for her report. Decided to offer the website report, and return to WSO report at the end.
- Website: [ Staci ]
  - Also recently voted into the position. Reported on the numbers of views to various pages. Added a page organizing the reports - the 'last 12 months'. Introduced the upcoming website survey to get input from the membership.
- Ad Hoc Safety Committee: [Lisa]
  - Looking at the drafting of 2 final policies - personal safety and tech/website safety. Looking for a chair for the Town Hall discussion on contact list protocols.
  - Inaugurated the Healthy Service 24/7 as part of a service support layer to our meeting. This is an open discussion time for members to focus on service. We are rotating chairs for these gatherings, self nominating for the following meeting.
  - Issue was raised at the elections last week, about the 'brutality' with which trusted servants are treated. It was agreed to bring the comment to the Business meeting. No specific outcome was expected.

Comments and Questions:

- This is a subject for a Group Conscience.
- Perhaps this could be addressed at a 24/7 meeting. Also, notice has been made that Room Hosts are not sharing generally at the 'top of the hour' - could this be in reaction to the feeling of being victimized?
- Was this documented? Would like more information. Meaning is vague, open to interpretation.
- Give notice for upcoming GC Town Hall.
- Difficult to legislate kindness and good manners. Some bullying may take place outside of meetings.
- We are not professional therapists, just trying to get along together.
- Perhaps bring this topic to a 24/7 meeting.
- Could use more clarity around 'brutality'
  - response: the issue was deferred immediately, nothing else in the minutes.
- This should be addressed since we do have challenges in getting and keeping Trusted Servants.
- Perhaps a motion to discuss this at the 24/7 in order to get more clarity around the issue.

**MOTION:** That this issue about the comment about 'brutality' be discussed at the next 24/7 meeting which is on June 24th at 8:45 am Eastern. Seconded liberally, including Elly.

- 24/7 is intended to be conversational and not business-like. Would hate to see 'motions' creep into it.
- Time should be set aside to discuss this. Honoring the original commentator. It's their experience - we are not to be caretakers.

**Friendly Amendment:** To schedule a group conscience separately, so that it's not at the 24/7. Chelsea

- The 24/7 is about doing service, not about business.
- Let's talk to the complainant, to gain clarity.
- At the 24/7 a motion could be raised to further explore the issue.
- Unless the SMR membership is informed of these extra meetings where actions are being taken, we are losing legitimate representation. I would want to know what's going on.
- 24/7 meetings are very new. They should be a Robert's Rules Free Zone - no motions - no minutes - it's not a business meeting.
- Our method is to call a Town Hall Group Conscience devoted to exploring a single issue.

**MOTION:** to extend to the top of the hour - adopted.

- However we tackle this issue, the time and place needs to be announced to the group in advance. Feel a separate Town Hall would be best.
- What is a Town Hall? How does it compare to a Group conscience?
  - Response in chat: Town Hall = Group Conscience.
- Conundrum: If I have an issue of bullying, I could bring it to the 24/7 meeting, yet the person who raised the issue at the Elections may not be doing service and may not attend the 24/7.
- Call for the motion:

**MOTION:** Have a Town Hall discussion on Sunday, June 30 at 9am ET for the concerns around the treatment of Trusted Servants, including announcement to full fellowship. Lisa. Second: Elly  
Active in attendance: 17 members; **Yes: 14**, No: 0, Abstaining: 1 **Motion passes.**

**[NOTE: The above 40 minute discussion included over 40 comments from 13 participants]**

Motion to Close...

Jim R takes over as Chair.

Motion to Close - Discussion

- Elly would like to introduce her proposal and we are still in the middle of reports

Motion to Close did not pass, although members were reminded they can leave at any time. We moved to extend the meeting up to 20 Minutes

The floor was given to Elly.

- Since the Promises are the Self-Care reading twice in the week, on Saturdays we could read the writings of Claudia B as adapted from the BRB p xxiv. This will be posted on the website for comment and then voting.

- Business Meeting Study Group: [Jim R]

- We offer recommendations to the Group as to how our business might be conducted.
- The results of the recent survey were offered.
- Next Steps: put the proposed script on our website for comment. And propose a Town Hall Group Conscience for discussion and a vote of acceptance.

## CLOSING

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### 11. Announcements and Next Meeting:

- Next meeting will be held on Sunday, July 21st

### 12. Adjournment and Closing Prayer:

- Motion to close: Elly
- Seconded: Stephen
- The meeting is adjourned at: 10:16 [**1 hour and 24 minutes**]

We close with the ACA Serenity Prayer.