

**S-ANON 2012 WORLD SERVICE CONFERENCE MINUTES**  
**NASHVILLE, TN**  
July 27, 2012

1. Sign in

2. **Opening.** The World Service Conference (WSC) was opened by the WSC Chairperson .

3. **World Service Conference Welcome.** A brief welcome to the 9th annual S-Anon World Service Conference was made to all members in attendance and the meeting was opened with the Serenity Prayer.

4. **Adoption of the agenda**

Southeast Regional Trustee moved to adopt the agenda as written and Board of Trustees Treasurer seconded. There was no discussion or objections and the Agenda was adopted unanimously.

5. **Credential Committee Report:** Board of Trustees Secretary gave the Credential Committee Report. Twenty-seven voting WSC members were present and the quorum set at 18 votes to constitute the 2/3rds required to pass a motion. See attached attendance list.

6. **Minutes of the 2011 World Service Conference:**

The Western Regional Trustee made a motion to accept the Minutes of the 2011 World Service Conference and it was seconded by the Policy Committee Chairperson. Archives Committee Chairperson was recognized as Secretary of those Minutes and was thanked for her service. Vote to adopt Minutes as stated was unanimous and Minutes were adopted.

7. **Roll call and Introductions:** Everyone introduced themselves and identified their area of responsibility (WSO staff, Delegate or Board member).

8. **Program Readings:** S-Anon 12 Steps was read by the Georgia Delegate. The S-Anon 12 Traditions was read by the Virginia Delegate. The S-Anon 12 Concepts was read by the Southeast Regional Trustee.

9. **Board of Trustees Chairperson's Report:**

The Board of Trustees (BOT) Chairperson briefly discussed combining Chairperson and Executive Committee reports as they are generated by the same person. The BOT Chairperson shared that the BOT has gone through a challenging time during the past year and recognized the hard work to get to where it is today. It is felt we are on a positive track now. A new Executive Director has been hired and has brought skills that are inspiring and that have transformed the World Service Office (WSO); staffing is where it needs to be although some training is still needed; move to more appropriate space has been accomplished and the WSC members were able to tour the new offices and found them to be beautiful, functional and with room for volunteers to serve the fellowship. The updated BOT Bylaws was presented: two consecutive terms per BOT member (no longer than 6 years) with a one year hiatus before volunteering for other service positions. Challenges have been experienced in attracting another Treasurer. BOT approval has been given to recruit a Treasurer from other 12-Step fellowships. The decision was made to use some of the prudent reserve funds to upgrade the web presence and it will go live on July 30, 2012 with new store functionality and the capability to add modules to allow new functionality downstream. Progress has been made in sharing information between the Delegates and the BOT. Questions were held until after the WSO & Executive Committee report.

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**10. Board of Trustees Co-Chairperson's report (Co-Chair position vacant):**

There was no BOT Co-Chairperson's Report.

**11. World Service Office Report:**

The Executive Director shared opening commentary on challenges faced and overcome, including: hours of operation extended, staff changes including promotion to a part time paid position, new office space, new on-line store, new database thanks to Chicago volunteer, credit card processing changes, shipping processes and a new way for volunteers to contribute. It was also shared more support is planned for trusted servants above the local level, more ways to have literature available to folks and electronic availability is being investigated; bottom line is it's an exciting time to be at WSO and a Trusted Servant at the WSO level. There is a new energy, new focus, and new facts to deliver on its message of hope and recovery to those who want it and need it. Questions were then invited.

The Georgia Delegate asked if the WSO was working with volunteers and recruiting volunteers, what type of work is being done by those volunteers and will any be local? It was answered that it will start locally from the Nashville area. There is one volunteer as a "crash test" volunteer who has gone through training for phone service and will look to email interface as well; light clerical tasks when phones are not ringing. A core team of people is wanted who come in on a regular basis, reducing volunteers who are constantly learning on the job and offering some consistency.

The Arizona Delegate asked if the WSO is considering keeping a list of long distance sponsors for 12 Stepping Newcomers? Answer: WSO has a long list that is probably obsolete and will be recruiting volunteers to Sponsor and to talk to Newcomers.

**12. BOT Committee reports:**

**a. Executive:**

This was previously covered under the Chairperson's report and the WSO report. There were no questions.

**b. Finance:**

The Finance Committee Chair highlighted that the Finance committee's role is to be the arm of the BOT that makes recommendations for best usage of funds. The Finance Committee supports each Committee in coming up with their own budgets, had a consultant role for negotiating the new lease, researching replacements for broken equipment, the on-line store, and streamlining data entry processes. The highest priority of the Finance Committee is filling the Treasurer role. Questions were invited.

Kentucky Delegate: In the OTHER category - does it cover insurance liability and what is the amount? Answer: Yes, \$1 million

Arizona Delegate: Is WSO's prudent reserve in the numbers and is there sufficient contingency in case of recovery due to damage (as an example). What is the amount? Answer: Yes, approximately \$32,000.

**c. Literature:** Presented by the Literature Committee Chair

There are nine members on the Committee who act as Editors and meet monthly by phone. The quarterly S-Anews is produced by this group and Delegates are asked to encourage their home groups to subscribe. The Committee is also working on Traditions from the S-Anon point of view

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and is looking at ways to speed up the process without losing group participation. If WSC participants are interested in writing or being a reader, you are needed. The floor was opened for questions and concerns.

Southwestern Trustee asked if there are any copyright or translation challenges? While in Germany, they used a loose leaf book. Answer: Germany has translated (at their cost) *Reflections of Hope*. The WSO is looking to grant permission or license to the local groups to translate additional texts. The WSO has granted permission to Germany for the blue book; a Polish segment will be made available on the website and there are already German and Spanish sections on the website.

**Short Break** was taken

d. **Convention:** Presented by the International Convention Committee (ICC) Chairperson. Committee members are geographically diverse and most members have hosted and all have attended an International Convention. Conventions are booked through 2015. During the past year we've completed two big multi-year projects: 1) S-Anon International Convention Planning Guide 2) Survey of the fellowship to determine if we continue two conventions per year. Surveyed the Newark Convention last January and surveyed fellowship as a whole to get as much information as possible. Passion of comments asking to keep two conventions was very touching, that conventions have helped a large number of people looking for recovery. Through 2015 we will continue to hold two conventions. Right now we have one Delegate and five Trustees so the Chairperson has a lot of recruitment goals this year and will be talking to Delegates and members with computer and web skills that can create templates to help create a "convention in a box" so look for that in the future. Questions were invited.

BOT Chairperson asked about the ICC involvement in improving how host groups work with SA. Answer: Committee is putting together guidelines on how to interact with SA and will be asking for a larger budget to work with and to help local host committees so there is communication early on. Tradition 6, cooperation with SA, is a challenge and is high on the ICC priority list.

e. **World Service Conference:** Presented by the WSC Committee Chair. WSC is responsible for putting together what we are participating in today. A major accomplishment this year is the new website with a WSC page that contains links to an updated version of the WSC Charter, a more in depth version of Robert's Rules, every single WSC minutes since 2004 and any current motions before the WSC. We also did research on electronic participation and gave findings to policy committee. Like the Convention Committee we are working on a "WSC on a flash drive". Questions were invited.

Trustee-at-Large asked whether being a Delegate was a requirement to serve on the committee. Answer: Anyone who is willing to serve may inquire. Meetings are on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday 8pm EST by phone.

f. **Public Information & Outreach:** No report, Chair is vacant

g. **Archives:** Presented by the Archives Committee Chairperson

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Archives' mission is to preserve and document our history. The committee has been very active for the last several years trying to scan all available documents for preservation. A historical display was set up at the Portland convention with good results. A book on S-Anon's history is one thought for the future. Committee members are needed as well as any history on groups and Intergroups that may be available and any documentation on events such as fliers. Someone with electronic graphic experience is needed and someone in the Nashville area that can help with the hard copy files.

h. **S-Ateen:** No report as Chairperson role is vacant

i. **Policy Study and Service Communications:** Presented by the Policy Study and Service Communications (PSSC) Committee Chair

This is the committee's second year in existence. The first year was mainly putting together the process. This year four issues were presented and two were completed, as well as supporting an ad hoc committee that is currently on hold. Several issues were prioritized for the future. Here's how the PSSC Committee works – a request comes, (background card of what the issue is and why it should be looked at is completed) it's discussed and prioritized. We then go through a very methodical process of measuring each issue against each Tradition individually and then discussing on a monthly call, write a report that goes to the requester and BOT. You don't have to be a member of the BOT or a delegate but we are looking for volunteers. There were no questions from the floor.

j. **Addendum** by Finance Committee Chair

Our committee also needs members and you don't need a numbers background as you will bring invaluable experience in looking at other topics other than number issues. Committee meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month.

**13. Report from the Delegates:**

Delegates' report was read by the Georgia Delegate. She reported that the primary purpose of the Delegate Assembly is to pool resources and provide communications within our regions, BOT, and committees which have strengthened. Delegates from IL, NJ, TX, MD, KY, TN have been added leaving 26 areas that are still vacant. Working with new Delegates who come in who may not have a lot of experience is important so the group will look to mentor. Displays were presented: map of North America, Canada, United Kingdom with colored pins representing Delegates, clear pins represented where there are meetings but no Delegate and will also be on display outside the room. Attendees are invited to add pins if they know of a situation not represented. A second map of the world was presented and members were invited to put pins in that map as well; UK rep was called on to put pins in the world map.

**14. New Business**

A motion was made by the Missouri Delegate to allow a Delegate from a non-recognized area to be able to participate in the World Service Conference today and today only. The motion was seconded by the Georgia Delegate. A clarification was requested from the Treasurer as to which area this would be for. Answer: United Kingdom. After some discussion a motion was made by the BOT Chairperson to amend the motion to state that this body include a delegate from the UK to join us at the table with a voice but no vote. The motion was seconded by the BOT Secretary. After more discussion a vote was taken with 2 for the motion to amend and 24 against. Motion to

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amend the motion failed. Discussion again commenced on the original motion. A vote was taken with 3 against and 23 for. The motion passed and the UK Delegate was asked to join the Conference.

The member count was updated to 28 with a quorum of 19.

a. **Motion to Confirm the S-Anon Board of Trustees:**

Motion was made by BOT Chairperson and seconded by Maryland Delegate. Board was approved unanimously (27 For)

14. **Lunch Break** was taken

15. **Unfinished Business**

WSC Chairperson read Concept 3 and advised Delegates that they are not required to vote as their Groups have voted, but they have the authority to vote differently as they hear points of view that are new or different. The WSC Chairperson reminded Delegates they have three minutes to present the motion and each member may have three minutes to speak either for or against the motion and speaks only one time.

**Motion 1:** That S-Anon stop listing Sexaholics Anonymous (SA) literature as S-Anon Conference Approved Literature (CAL).

Motion was made by the Literature Committee Chair and seconded by the BOT Secretary.

After much discussion a vote was taken with 12 in favor and 14 against. Motion did not pass.

**Motion 2 (from the floor):** Motion was made by the Georgia Delegate on behalf of the World Service Conference Committee; To add Paragraph G to Section XI of the S-Anon World Service Conference Charter: Because the Conference is Traditional, the rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order shall govern this Conference in all cases where they are applicable except when they are inconsistent with this Charter, the Twelve Traditions and Concepts, or any special rules of order this Conference may adopt.

As this is a motion from committee, it does not require a second before voting.

BOT Treasurer & Finance Committee Chairperson moved to amend the motion to add Item G to read:

*Because the conference is traditional the rules contained in the current edition of Roberts Rules of Order shall govern this conference in all cases where they are applicable except when they are inconsistent with any special rules of order this conference may adopt.*

And adding the first special rule underneath to read:

*Roberts Rules of Order may not be invoked to close off discussion before all members who are rightfully entitled to speak have spoken to the issue.*

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Motion to amend the motion was seconded by the International Convention Committee Chairperson. After discussion that revolved around the use of Robert's Rules versus the 12 Traditions and 12 Concepts the vote was taken. The motion to amend the motion was unanimously approved (27 in favor).

As there was no further discussion on the amended motion a vote was taken. The amended motion passed unanimously (27 in favor).

No further motions were raised.

A motion to adjourn was made and seconded.

The Conference was closed with the Serenity Prayer.

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**WSC VOTING MEMBERS** (in attendance)

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

BOT and Executive Committee Chair  
BOT Secretary & Executive Committee Secretary  
BOT Treasurer & Finance Committee Chairperson  
WSO Executive Director & Trustee-at-Large  
Mid West Regional Trustee  
Western Region Trustee  
SW Regional Trustee  
SE Regional Trustee  
Archive Chairperson & Trustee-at-Large  
International Convention Committee Chairperson & Trustee-at-Large  
Literature Committee Chairperson & Trustee-at-large  
Policy Committee Chairperson & Trustee-at-Large  
WSC Committee Chairperson & Trustee-at-Large

DELEGATES

Virginia Delegate  
Maryland Delegate  
Southern California Delegate  
South Carolina Delegate  
Georgia Delegate  
Tennessee Delegate  
Oregon Delegate  
Colorado Delegate  
Illinois Delegate  
Arizona Delegate  
Kentucky Delegate  
Missouri Delegate  
North Carolina Delegate  
Texas Delegate  
U.K. Delegate

**WSC OBSERVERS AND SPECIAL WORKERS**

ALTERNATE DELEGATES

South Carolina Alternate  
Arizona Alternate

WSC SPECIAL WORKERS

Secretary  
Parliamentarian  
Parliamentarian in Training