

**S-ANON 2015 WORLD SERVICE CONFERENCE MINUTES**  
**Chicago, Illinois**  
**July 24, 2015**

1. **Sign in and WSC Member Meet & Greet**
  
2. **Opening:** The World Service Conference (WSC) was opened by the WSC Chairperson.
  
3. **World Service Conference Welcome:** WSC Chairperson gave a heartfelt welcome to the 12<sup>th</sup> annual World Service Conference to all members in attendance and began with the Serenity Prayer.
  
4. **Credential Committee report:** Thirty-eight voting WSC members were present. The number of votes needed to reach a quorum was twenty-six votes to constitute the 2/3rds required to pass a motion. See attached attendance list.
  - New numbers to be released for motion that requires  $\frac{3}{4}$  to pass a motion, which would be 29 votes.
  - As of after lunch, the numbers still stood from the morning.
  
5. **Adoption of the agenda:** The WSC Chairperson made a motion to adopt the agenda, as is. Oregon Delegate seconded. It was adopted as recorded unanimously.
  
6. **Approval of the minutes of the 2014 World Service Conference:** The ICC Chairperson moved to adopt the minutes as written and Texas Delegate seconded the motion. Motion to approve the minutes as written passed unanimously.

Minutes from last year motions 5 and 7 failed. Minutes from last year say amendments failed, not the motion themselves. NY Delegate made motion to change to say that the motions themselves failed. The motion was seconded.

36 voted to pass the minutes, 0 opposed, 1 abstain

7. **Roll call and introductions:** Everyone introduced themselves and identified their area of responsibilities (WSO staff, Delegate or Board member).
  
8. **Program readings:** The S-Anon Twelve Steps, the Twelve Traditions and the Twelve Concepts were read.

**9. Board of Trustees Chairperson's report:** The Board of Trustees (BOT) Chairperson shared that the BOT has worked very hard this year and hopes the results are pleasing to the fellowship. The published report was referenced for more details.

**Q:** New York Delegate—According to Concept Ten, I noticed new version of Service Manual. Who was working with the Executive Committee on revising the Service Manual?

**A:** BOT Chair—The Ad Hoc Committee reports to the Executive Committee, which reports to board.

**Q:** New York Delegate—Has the BOT finalized the Service Manual?

**A:** BOT Chair—Parts have gone to the board for approval, but haven't been approved yet. Some things need to be worked out. The Service Manual is divided into parts, and we are currently working on part three. I can't give a time frame. We are trying to bring current policies into the Service Manual, but are not trying to change it to the point where it is unrecognizable.

**Q:** Oregon Delegate—Is each committee chair a voting member of board? Is there a balance between the weight of Delegates and Trustees in terms of voting power?

**A:** BOT Chair—The motion came out year before, two-thirds Delegates, one-third Board. There are not enough delegates this year, but this is the closest we've been. An ad hoc committee is being formed under the World Service Conference Committee (WSCC). The key is getting people to set up and serve on that committee.

**COMMENT:** Maryland Delegate—We discussed at this at the GDA, and some delegates have volunteered.

The Southeast Regional Trustee (SERT) share on behalf of the Credential Committee that is more than a two-thirds to one-third ratio. 15 to 23.

**Q:** Maryland Delegate—Could you share more about E-publishing, in terms of financial success?

**A:** BOT Chair—I'll let the Executive Director talk about that.

**Q:** Easter Canada Delegate—How can we include international members?

**A:** BOT Chair— I'll let the Executive Director talk about that. There is an ad hoc committee looking at that.

**Q:** Maryland Delegate—Will the delegates get a final draft of the Service Manual before it goes to print?

**A:** BOT Chair—No.

**10. Board of Trustees Co-Chairperson's report:** No report, position vacant

**11. World Service Office report:**

The Executive Director introduced herself and referred to the report. The WSO is stable and functional, and has the ability to handle just about anything thrown at it.

E-publishing has been success. We sell 15-30 copies of the EBook every month. We are excited about rolling out the green book, potentially at end of August. The plan is to offer all paperback books in EBook form. Pamphlets don't make sense financially. An ad hoc committee is looking at internal service structure. How do we factor in voices outside of North America? Will they have a part in our structure or form their own? The committee met from November through April. We sought out other fellowships and found some are very hands off and develop their own, for example, like a galactic service conference, UN-style. It's a continuum. We looked to Al-Anon and tried to find a happy medium. We developed a proposal to move toward a service structure where North America supports the development of independent service structures outside of North America, when they're ready. The WSO will serve as guidance. The report is one hundred pages, and went to the board yesterday. It was approved in concept. The ad hoc dissolved because the task was accomplished. In its place will be the Global Coordination Committee, and we are looking for delegate involvement. We would like to put together a motion for the WSC next year to change our service structure to accommodate and support other countries. Delegates are also needed to serve on standing committees for the BOT. Two trusted servants working behind the scenes are our webmaster, who is working on the members-only section of the site, and our graphic designer, who has done graphics for our logo and literature.

**Q:** Oregon Delegate—Can you clarify about the members-only area? What is the plan for access? Will committee openings be there?

**A:** Executive Director—Yes, there will be a single password for all. It will be a simple suppository for all information to be of service. Delegates could potentially add to it.

**Q:** New York Delegate—How many cease and desist orders has the WSO sent out? Who makes that decision?

**A:** Executive Director—None. The WSO cannot send out legal documents.

**Q:** New York Delegate—Anyone can ask anyone to cease and desist in New York. Has anyone let the couples' meeting know they can let it keep operating? Can I get the documents?

**A:** Executive Director—Which couples' meeting are you talking about?

Question came up if this was out of order. Referred to Parliamentarian, who referred to the WSC Chair.

WSC Chair asked the New York Delegate to describe to the group instead of reading from the paper. Executive Director urged to resist temptation to list grievances, and suggested to table it.

**Q:** New Mexico Delegate—In members-only area, will committee reports be there? Will there be finalized ones or a summary of the minutes? The delegates don't know what's going on in committees where delegates aren't represented.

**A:** Executive Director—Some information is confidential, like the wages of the WSO staff. That remains to be seen. The goal is to have as much transparency as possible as it relates to our overall fellowship and to encourage participation.

## **12. BOT Committee reports:**

### **a. Executive**

The BOT and Executive Committee Chair shared, directing to the report for more detailed information, and asked for questions.

**Q:** Montana Delegate—How close is the Decision Database to being up and running?

BOT Chair deferred to the Executive Director.

**A:** Executive Director—The Decision Database started as way to build institutional memory in an organization where there is turnover every three years. The database was made to answer why certain decisions were made by the BOT and the WSC. We started going through all minutes back to 1988 and attempted to capture all decisions the BOT made about policy and Tradition-related issues. The draft is current, but is under review. We will be working with the Archives Committee to find inaccuracies in the minutes, which they already have sorted some out, and will review for accuracy. The process is starting in the next month or so.

Archives Committee Chair shared that it was different in earlier years, and that they started there, in the beginning. The stuff in the records is not clearly organized. SIC minutes may be attached to a Convention program. The Archives Committee is working to put these things in order. Now, the committee decided to start at the current end, where it is more likely to be accurate. The current stuff will be released, then the committee will work backwards, releasing in stages for those interested.

**Q:** Online Progress Meeting Delegate—What would the Executive Committee Co-Chair position look like?

**A:** BOT Chair—They would be a voting member on board. When bylaws change, they would change them and send them back out. The main duty is to support the Chair, like a "Chair in Training."

**Q:** Online Progress Meeting Delegate—How long has the position been vacant?

**A:** BOT Chair—Not sure. A long time. It's not an easy position to fill. It's a big commitment on all levels—emotionally, spiritually, mentally—but it's desperately needed. It's a great way to step up recovery.

**Q:** Online Progress Meeting Delegate—Are there monthly phone meetings?

SERT called a Point-of-Order due to microphone.

**A:** BOT Chair—The Executive Committee meets two times per month, once on the Executive Committee phone meeting and once on the BOT phone meeting. There may be other special meetings that come up as well.

**COMMENT:** SERT—It's been vacant since August 2011.

**Q:** Oregon Delegate—What is the time commitment?

**A:** BOT Chair—Consider it a part time job...that you don't get paid for.

The Northeast Regional Trustee (NERT) shared that she works about 20-30 hours per week, including her work on the Translation Committee and for the WSCC. The BOT Chair shared that one puts in what they are able.

**Q:** Online Progress Meeting Delegate—Are there some regions that don't have representation?

**A:** BOT Chair—There are two regions that don't have trustees now. The more active delegates we have, the easier it is for all. If all delegate positions were filled, the Regional Trustee work wouldn't be that difficult. If all delegates were active on committees, committees would work more easily. It starts with the delegates. We need more delegates. I know you are looking at adding more delegates for states with more members.

**Q:** Maryland Delegate—How often does *Service Matters* come out?

**A:** BOT Chair—Three times per year.

**Q:** Massachusetts Delegate—Can non-delegates serve on committees?

**A:** BOT Chair—Yes. For some committees you have to have certain knowledge. Check with each committee for their specifics.

The West Trustee shared she was on the Literature Committee long before she was a delegate. She also invited delegates to invite other members to introduce them to the larger service world.

**Q:** Online Progress Meeting Delegate—How does one go about volunteering?

**A:** BOT Chair—Contact the WSO and they will put you in contact with committee chair for the committee you are interested in.

**b. Finance**

The BOT Treasurer shared, asking for volunteers for the committee. One member stepped down after many years of service. The Maryland Delegate has made an important contribution to the committee. The committee needs more delegate participation. Seek out people in home group, great for people who

have natural tendency toward finances. The committee meets once per month, or maybe more during budget season. BOT Treasurer then shared on the budget. Salaries are a little over 50% to overall expenditures. We have incredible coverage with staff and volunteers. We finished 2014 \$10,000 under budget due to low donations. The delays in purchases were favorable for the budget. Expenditures are going slightly upward, and that is the nature of expenses we have. Significant expenditures are going to S-Ateen, and higher salaries are budgeted due to a longer year. BOT Treasurer gave instructions on how to send expense reports to WSO for reimbursement.

**Q:** Online Progress Meeting Delegate—The online group has not figured out way to protect anonymity to gather resources. I am here without group support. Is it possible to send donations to WSO? The group would like to support, but there is no vehicle to do so. We need another entity.

**A:** BOT Treasurer—I don't have an answer immediately. We will take this back and discuss.

New York Delegate pointed to graphs and expressed concerns about the budget. BOT Treasurer said 2015 is the budget for this year.

**Q:** New York Delegate—Salaries are expected to exceed budget. Could the number be greater?

**A:** BOT Treasurer—The issue was caught after budget was passed.

**Q:** New York Delegate—What are BOT Travel Committee expense? Is that separate from delegate and trustee travel? Are there two different accounts for travel?

**A:** BOT Treasurer—There are multiple accounts for travel. There's local travel, then BOT travel.

**Q:** Indiana Delegate—Does the BOT travel anywhere together other than now?

**A:** BOT Treasurer—This is the only time. We try to be a good steward of the donations of the members.

### c. **Literature**

Literature Committee Chair thanked previous Chair for all of her service, then directed to the report and asked for questions. The Literature Committee Chair also shared that they are moving forward with the Traditions project, and that there is a new sponsoring editor to organize the project. There are drafts written on all twelve Traditions.

**Q:** Virginia Delegate—What is the status of the blog posting proposal?

**A:** Literature Committee Chair—It is approved in concept. The proposal is to gain approval to post quotes from literature on the blog and connect with newcomers. We are collecting data, and have a final proposal, including a one month schedule of posting. There is no additional copyright needed. Content would be chosen by a team of three to four people. There are two to three

volunteers on the committee, as well as the Public Outreach and Information Committee.

**Q:** Maryland Delegate—Is there actual blogging?

**A:** Literature Committee Chair—It is not interactive. It will be linked to the S-Anon website and the store.

**Q:** Maryland Delegate—Would people have more recent shares to be edited and published?

**A:** Literature Committee Chair—I don't know if we are soliciting new writing.

**Q:** Maryland Delegate—Where is a brief summary of the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions available?

**A:** Literature Committee Chair—In the store.

**Q:** Tennessee Delegate—Do the Traditions 3, 6, and 9 include reference to SA?

**A:** Literature Committee Chair—Yes.

**Q:** Policy Study & Service Communications Committee Chair—What is the status of the history of the S-Anon program booklet?

The Literature Committee Chair deferred to the Archives Committee Chair.

**A:** Archived Committee Chair—We're working on it. After approval, we are looking at how we want to do it. The motion asked for a concept, and we weren't sure of the actual form. It is clearly now going to be a book. Three people on the Literature Committee, or previously were, are helping to edit. It is in a rough stage and could take long time, but we have made a lot of progress. We have 150 pages so far and are excited about it. We don't have an official sponsoring editor, but have people familiar with the CAL process. It is a work in progress, but we are definitely working on it.

SHORT BREAK WAS TAKEN.

**d. Convention**

The ICC Chair and Trustee-at-Large presented her report, pointing to the report for more details. The committee is full and not looking for new members, but it does need help. There are no International Convention plans for after 2016. The process starts with delegates and trustees talking to Intergroups about putting in a bid. Groups can work with other members nearby and use conference calls for planning meetings. The committee is also always looking for qualified speakers for the Speaker Pool. It takes time to vet speakers and find new ones. Asked for questions.

**Q:** Texas Delegate—Could you please unpack the bidding process?

**A:** ICC Chair—The bid form is on the WSO site. It asks for a couple of committed people to chair, as well as how many years in program and how much service completed. Once the form is complete, send it to the ICC and we'll look at it. There also has to be a bid from other side. For example, right now, we have a bid

from S-Anon that's approved, but not one from SA. We are not ready for S-Anon only.

**Q:** Texas Delegate—Do you need something in particular in your story for the Speaker Pool?

**A:** ICC Chair—Topics that are special to you, such as having a person incarcerated. Topics can give diversity.

**Q:** Maryland Delegate—Is there an SA approved bid in 2017?

**A:** ICC Chair—There are no approved SA bids. All we have is 2016 in San Diego and July 2017 in Denver.

**Q:** New Jersey Delegate—Most people don't do service. Can people be in the Speaker Pool without service?

**A:** ICC Chair—It's not necessary. We are looking for people who have time and healthy shares, a sponsor and have worked the Steps and Traditions.

**e. World Service Conference**

The WSCC Chair directed to the report. Primary purpose to create opportunities to discuss issues at hand for S-Anon to grow and change with the times. We are a small committee. The work isn't difficult, but it does require brainstorming to look at motions and think through them. The committee needs a couple more people. There is only one delegate on the committee, and she is serving in new position. On the second Sunday in August, the committee is having an Open House conference call for those interest to find out more and ask questions. An ad hoc committee is being formed to update the WSC charter, adopted from Al-Anon. Parts of document no longer apply and there are gaps. The committee will also be writing service literature around how to write a good motions and the process of a motion. It will be placing in writing information about voting ratios of BOT to delegates. Asked for questions.

**Q:** Maryland Delegate—Will one ad hoc committee be investing potential remote participation for the WSC?

**A:** WSCC Chair—We have done that already, one to two years ago. We did research and studies based on technology at that time and were in touch with other fellowships. The biggest issue is anonymity. If people feel it's time to look at again, someone could put together a motion.

**f. Public Information and Outreach**

The New Mexico Delegate shared on behalf of the PiO Chair and referred to the report. The New Mexico Delegate invited more delegates to participate. Backgrounds of marketing and publicity not necessary. Asked for questions.

**Q:** BOT Chair--Is there information about the Corrections Committee?

**A:** New Mexico Delegate—They meet regularly, I believe. The committee has put together a template for a letter to send to the community such as therapists, churches, etc. They are trying to have a mechanism to get materials to those behind bars.

**Q:** New York Delegate—Does to PiO have a budget?

**A:** New Mexico Delegate—We do have a budget, but I don't know the amount.

New Mexico Delegate deferred to BOT Treasurer.

**A:** BOT Treasurer—\$552 for the year.

**g. Archives**

The Archives Committee Chair presented the report. The committee is cleaning up and editing electronic files, and have done work on the timeline. Archives also needs members. The posters were all recently redone and sent to Portland, but the panel didn't go up because it is impractical to ship. There was a lot of positive feedback. Asked for questions. None were asked.

**h. S-Ateen**

The S-Ateen Committee Chair shared that exciting things happening with S-Ateen. The committee is small and needs members. People on the committee have a heart for young people getting recovery. S-Ateen was dormant for eight years and was revived about year and half ago. There are six new pieces of S-Ateen literature and service literature, all of which are up and available on the site. There is a training program being developed for S-Ateen sponsors. There are two adults needed per meeting. There was no process to vet or to create meeting, and now there is an application process that includes letters of recommendation from others in program and a background check. There needs to be a safe environment for S-Ateens and sponsors. The committee has worked closely with Al-Anon and Al-Ateen. There are already two certified S-Ateen group sponsors from San Diego who are ready and able to start a meeting, and eight people were trained last month. The goal is now to get local meetings up and running. Someone in Brooklyn is trained, but there needs to be a second person. Spread the word. People don't realize it's a possibility to start a meeting. The difference for extending the opportunity for recovery is huge. The challenge is for parents to reveal what happened. S-Ateen doesn't focus on specifics, just opens dialogue for recovery. It is a solution-based program for teens. There is an online S-Ateen community, an online meeting to overcome the geographic challenge. Inquiries come in outside of the U.S., too. There has been confusion about people calling WSO about their teen's sexual addiction, and there has been a letter drafted to address this issue and redirect them to help. There is a pilot meeting. The software is ready with a firewall. Anonymity is addressed by no names or email addresses. In April 2016, there will be S-Ateen at an event in Pennsylvania and at a Marathon in Virginia. If one does plan local event, include S-Ateen meetings and the option on registration form. Sponsors can be trained. It is especially encouraged that previous Al-Ateen sponsors to get involved.

**Q:** Texas Delegate—Is there an official opinion about having S-Ateens attend S-Anon meetings?

**A:** S-Ateen Chair—They are permitted to attend an S-Anon meeting. It is suggested that when one family member shares, the other steps out. Not a requirement though. S-Anons should consider sharings to keep appropriate.

**Q:** Texas Delegate—Is it subject to group conscience? Could they be excluded?

**A:** S-Ateen Chair—Maybe could, due to Tradition Four.

**COMMENT:** ICC Chair—In all of the reading I've done, S-Ateens are considered S-Anons. If excluded, it could be a special meeting. All meetings are open to S-Anons.

**Q:** Massachusetts Delegate—What is the recommended age?

**A:** S-Ateen Chair—Twelve to nineteen. Online, we can't restrict age. There's an internet policy that restricts anyone twelve and under. We recommend the site for ages thirteen to nineteen. But we can't enforce this due to anonymity.

**Q:** Massachusetts Delegate—How does an S-Ateen qualify?

**A:** S-Ateen Chair—Family member or friend.

**Q:** New York Delegate—If a local event is having an S-Anon function, do they need two S-Ateen sponsors?

**A:** S-Ateen Chair—If someone wanted to bring their S-Ateen with them, they could attend an S-Anon meeting. S-Ateen meetings are totally separate and need two certified sponsors. Contact WSO if interested.

**Q:** New York Delegate—Are there other Twelve Step groups that certify meetings leaders at the group level?

**A:** S-Ateen Chair—Yes. Al-Ateen. Nar-Ateen. They all have a certification process.

**Q:** New York Delegate—Have legal and criminal advice been sought in this country and internationally to cover ourselves?

**A:** S-Ateen Chair—We sought a lot of advice from Al-Anon and have sought legal advice. We are in line with what others are doing. Keep it appropriate by not discussing sex, but the principals of recovery. Legal requirements vary state by state. If a teen expressed questionable behavior in terms of abuse, it varies about mandating reporting. Two sponsors to confer about these issues. They are trained to speak to someone else.

**Q:** New York Delegate—What if an international body certifies sponsors, and something happens like an S-Ateen invites a friend over and an issue comes up that we knew about?

**A:** S-Ateen Chair—Working with Al-Ateen has been helpful. It is a rare occurrence. There have been meetings for a number of years and no issues have come up before. People are trained to discuss with someone else, not figure it out on their own.

**Q:** Georgia Delegate—Are there safeguards in place about being inappropriate in the online meeting? Like older kids?

**A:** S-Ateen Chair—Someone can't join willy-nilly. The application is completed, reviewed, then they are allowed into the meeting. There is a firewall to prevent predators. We looked at this in the development.

**COMMENT:** Oregon Delegate—Each state has its own policies for certifying Al-Ateen sponsors. Some are more stringent than others. In Oregon, there was more conversation about mandated reporting. It was an “up in the air” issue. My understanding is we are not mandated reporters because we are volunteers, but we should consider ourselves to be.

**A:** S-Ateen Chair—S-Ateen sponsors need to look into their own state’s mandated reporting laws. Nar-Ateen is the same way. We do address it in our training. We need to be aware of issues, but not scared of them. It is well worth the administrative steps to take.

**COMMENT:** Indiana Delegate—Kudos for following Tradition Five.

**Q:** New Jersey Delegate—Is there a way to disseminate flyers to local groups?

**A:** S-Ateen Chair—If you have someone in your state who wants to start, direct them to WSO. They must may for a background check, which is usually \$28, plus varying county fees. They could ask Intergroup to fund.

WSCC Chair shared that the WSO will send electronic version of flyers to share with groups.

### **13. Policy Study and Service Communications**

The interim chair shared that the original chair stepped down in middle of their term. There are three currently serving on the committee. The committee has picked up projects that had not been worked on, and normally meets once per month, but haven’t met regularly. There are five members on paper, but two are inactive. The committee is looking for members. It is strongly suggested to have worked the Twelve Traditions and maybe even the Concepts. If someone is not familiar with the Traditions, there is too much of a learning curve. The committee has two primary purposes: one is to review service literature. The Executive Committee realized it is part of the Policy Study Committee and it had not been doing that. Now, that piece is reestablished, although it takes time to review and run everything through Steps, Traditions, Concepts and other service manuals. Anyone can present an issue to the committee to review, they just need to complete the form on the WSO site. A flow chart was created and is up for BOT approval for what happens when someone has an issue and the process it goes through. It can take a long time depending on the issue. The committee may recommend changes to BOT in form of a motion. The BOT then makes a decision. If it effects whole fellowship, then it comes to the WSC. There is a discrepancy in some literature. Motion 6 was to reclassify “Recovering Together” pamphlet from CAL to service literature. It was withdrawn, but could come back to floor.

**Q:** New York Delegate—May a meeting read service literature?

**A:** Policy Study Committee Chair—It’s best to use CAL for one unified voice.

**COMMENT:** New York Delegate—This means couples’ meetings have no literature.

**A:** Policy Study Committee Chair—Registered meetings are a different classification than open meetings. Each group is autonomous and may decide what to read in their meetings.

**Q:** Indiana Delegate—Question about motion.

**A:** BOT Treasurer—It was reclassified because the content was more appropriate for service literature rather than CAL. Is that correct?

**A:** Policy Study Committee Chair—The booklet has multiple issues. In 2012, there was policy created by the board, not in the service manual, which redefined the types of literature. CAL is written by S-Anons and speaks from the S-Anon point of view. The green book was revised to speak about and from the S-Anon point of view. The booklet does not. The “how to” section gives a suggested meeting format and other information that falls more under service literature.

WSCC Chair called a point-of-order, that questions related to a motion be saved for motion discussion. Moved to the next report.

#### **14. Regional Trustee report:**

Regional Trustee Chair presented the report, and welcomed the NERT and highlighted her accomplishment. Goodbyes were also said to the SERT and highlighted his contributions. Trustees support delegates, who support Intergroup, who support meetings, who support lone members. Trustees work for delegates and want to hear how they can be of service. The Lone Member initiative was created. When a lone member calls, the Regional Trustee is notified, then there is outreach to the member. Some regions have a Lone Member Coordinator. They match lone members up nearby to potentially begin a meeting. There was an election for a new trustee. The process wasn't successful, but it was good information for the process. There is a new SERT in place.

**Q:** Online Progress Meeting Delegate—Is it possible for Kansas to be in the Midwest region?

**A:** RT chair—We've been looking at redistricting, especially in Northeast. We hope you'll add voice to the discussion.

#### **15. Delegate report:**

The Montana Delegate presented the Delegate Report, and just took over as chair for few months. The Connecticut Delegate will step up in October. The delegates realized they needed a chair for consistency. Referred to report and asked for questions. The Tennessee Delegate added that delegates are working hard and stronger than ever. At the GDA, it was discussed how many groups and meetings in areas, as well as Marathons, retreats and other special events. The Maryland Delegate added the delegates want to work more closely with the BOT to build trust. Groups are having challenges with sponsorship. Some delegates have volunteered to serve to look at voting ratios, as well as to research area representation. The delegates are also looking at other ways to discussion issues and sensitive topics that don't flood emails.

**COMMENT:** SERT—I believe every trusted servant's responsibility should be to service sponsor the next person coming in. Also, work hard to find an alternate delegate. They can help fulfill responsibilities and lend support.

## LUNCH BREAK

### REOPEN WITH THIRD STEP PRAYER AND REFRESHER OF GUIDELINES OF ADDRESSING NEW BUSINESS AS WELL AS CONCEPT 3.

#### 16. New Business

- a. **Motion from floor to confirm the slate of S-Anon Board of Trustees, with the correction for the term of the new SERT until August 2018. Extend the term of the current treasurer for one additional year until August 2017, then rotate every three years.**

New York Delegate moved that the motion was out of order because it is redundant.

**Q:** WSC Chair—Out of order why?

**A:** New York Delegate—No need for conference to vote on it because the BOT has already taken action on it.

Conversation to determine if out of order took place between WSC Chair, New York Delegate and BOT Chair.

WSC Chair stated that there is no written requirement that BOT be approved by the WSC. Overruled based on that fact that at this point in time this is a motion the BOT has brought before the WSC for a long time. May be open to discussion at a later date. Restated motion.

37 in favor, 1 abstaining. Motion passes.

#### b. **Motion 1**

*Move that the S-Anon World Service Conference Charter, as amended by the 2013 World Service Conference, Article XI. Conference Procedure, Section G., be further amended by adding the following item to Article G:*

2. *A motion from the floor that affects the fellowship as a whole may be made, seconded, discussed, debated, and added to the following year's WSC agenda for a vote, but no binding vote will be taken on such matters without allowing time for Delegates to determine the group conscience of the Areas represented with the exception of the presentation of the Slate of Board of Trustees members for the coming year. Or unless required by a grave emergency.*

Motion was presented by the Virginia Delegate. The New York Delegate seconded the motion.

Motion open for discussion.

After discussion, question was called. 0 in favor, 38 opposed, 0 abstaining. Motion fails.

**a. Motion 2**

*Move that the S-Anon World Service Conference Charter, as amended by the 2013 World Service Conference, Article II. Composition, Section A., be amended to specify that if an elected Area Delegate is unable to attend the WSC, an Alternate Area Delegate, elected or selected by the Area, and registered with the World Service Office, may be seated for the current WSC only, with a voice and a vote.*

Motion was presented by the Virginia Delegate. The BOT Chair seconded the motion.

Motion open for discussion.

The Indiana Delegate made an amendment to the motion to remove the words “*and registered with the World Service Office*”. Amendment seconded by the New York Delegate. Debate on motion as a whole suspended and discussion open on the amendment.

After discussion, question was called on the amendment. 2 in favor, 34 opposed, 2 abstaining. Amendment fails.

Original motion reopened for discussion.

Washington Delegate made an amendment to the motion to change “an *elected* Area Delegate” to “a *registered* Area Delegate.” It was seconded by the Indiana Delegate.

After discussion, question was called on the amendment. 31 in favor, 5 opposed, 2 abstaining. Amendment passes.

Amended motion now reads:

*Move that the S-Anon World Service Conference Charter, as amended by the 2013 World Service Conference, Article II. Composition, Section A., be amended to specify that if a **registered** Area Delegate is unable to attend the WSC, an Alternate Area Delegate, elected or selected by the Area, and registered with*

*the World Service Office, may be seated for the current WSC only, with a voice and a vote.*

After discussion, question was called on the amended motion. 38 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstaining. Amended motion passes.

**b. Motion 3**

*Move that the WSC approve the Facebook ad hoc committee's recommendation that S-Anon groups that meet on Facebook NOT be considered Registered Meetings at this time.*

Motion was presented by the WSO Executive Director. The Michigan Delegate seconded the motion.

Motion open for discussion.

**SHORT BREAK WAS TAKEN. RESUMED WITH CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE REPORT. NUMBERS UNCHANGED.**

After discussion, question was called. 37 in favor, 1 opposed, 0 abstaining. Motion passed.

**c. Motion 4**

*Instruct the BOT Literature Committee to: Delete the line in the S-Anon/S-Ateen Service Manual under "Special Meetings" that currently reads: "An S-Anon Couples Meeting is one example of a special meeting, at which attendance is limited to "Couples Only". Add the following statement to the S-Anon/S-Ateen Service Manual under the section titled Closed Meetings: "S-Anon Couples in Recovery meetings are considered closed meetings. These groups, when registered, have all the rights of any other closed meeting. All the attendees are members of S-Anon. Most of the people who go to these meetings are couples in a committed relationship. Sometimes people attend without their partner. Sometimes single people attend the meetings. Each group is autonomous."*

Motion was presented by the New York Delegate. The Montana Delegate seconded the motion.

The North Carolina Delegate moved motion to be ruled out of order. WSC Chair consulted with Parliamentarian. WSC Chair asked for someone to make a motion to take a recess to further research if the motion is out of order. Online Progress Meeting Delegate made a motion to take a ten minute recess. The ICC Chair seconded the motion.

WSC Chair ruled in favor of the language of the motion as is. Motion ruled in order and opened for discussion.

Archives Committee Chair moved motion to be ruled out of order because it's directing the Literature Committee to make a change to the Service Manual. The Literature Committee is not the authority to make changes to the Service Manual. WSC Chair consulted with Parliamentarian. The New York Delegate moved to amend to motion to read:

*Instruct the BOT **Executive** Committee to: Delete the line in the S-Anon/S-Ateen Service Manual under "Special Meetings" that currently reads: "An S-Anon Couples Meeting is one example of a special meeting, at which attendance is limited to "Couples Only". Add the following statement to the S-Anon/S-Ateen Service Manual under the section titled Closed Meetings: "S-Anon Couples in Recovery meetings are considered closed meetings. These groups, when registered, have all the rights of any other closed meeting. All the attendees are members of S-Anon. Most of the people who go to these meetings are couples in a committed relationship. Sometimes people attend without their partner. Sometimes single people attend the meetings. Each group is autonomous."*

ICC Chair seconded the amendment to the motion.

After discussion, question was called. 21 in favor, 8 opposed, 9 abstaining. Amended motion fails.

Questions arose whether a quorum or majority is needed to pass. WSC Chair consulted the Service Manual under Conference Procedures, which states that all matters require a 2/3 majority.

The amended motion failed.

WSC Chair ruled the motion ruled out of order because the information in the motion is inaccurate around who will revise the Service Manual.

**d. Motion 5**

*The www.S-Anon.org website shall not exclude Meeting Location links to otherwise approved web sites that list "Special Meetings".*

Motion was presented by the Northwest Regional Trustee. The Maryland Delegate seconded the motion.

Motion open for discussion.

The Maryland Delegate made an amendment to change the language of the motion, then withdrew it.

WSO Executive Director moved that the motion be ruled out of order under that it contradicts current policy. WSC Chair ruled motion out of order due to it being in contradiction to the current linking policy.

**e. Motion 6**

Withdrawn

**f. Motion 7**

*The following phrase shall be added to the Service Manual: "Any person is a member of S-Anon when he or she says so."*

Motion was presented by the Oregon Delegate. The New Mexico Delegate seconded the motion.

Motion open for discussion.

Archives Committee Chair moved motion be ruled out of order because it a redundancy of Tradition Three and what is already written in the Service Manual on page 13 under "Membership & Eligibility".

WSC Chair ruled motion out of order due to the redundancy detailed above.

**g. Motion 8**

*That Tradition Three be defined to affect "S-Anon membership" and "S-Anon groups", to the exclusion of all other S-Anon matters. This narrower definition of Tradition Three allows open S-Anon meetings and S-Anon meetings which exclude some S-Anon members. Move to direct the BOT to conduct a Fellowshipwide Group Conscience, accordingly.*

Motion was presented by the New York Delegate. The Online Progress Meeting Delegate seconded the motion.

Motion open for discussion.

Archives Committee Chair moved the motion be ruled out of order because it does not state what we are asked to bring to a Fellowship-Wide Group Conscience. WSC Chair consulted the Parliamentarian. Archives Committee Chair clarified that the new language of Tradition Three is not included in the motion, therefore there is nothing to vote on. The New York Delegate allowed by WSC Chair to give further clarification.

WSC Chair ruled motion out of order.

After discussion, question was called. 0 in favor, 38 opposed, 0 abstaining.  
Motion fails.

### **3. Motions from the floor**

#### a. Motion 9

*Move that the pamphlet "S-Ateen Information about Sponsorship and Meetings" be retired as Conferenced Approved Literature and be reclassified as service literature.*

S-Ateen Committee Chair made the motion. No second required.

Motion open for discussion.

After discussion, question was called. 33 in favor, 1 opposed, 2 abstaining.  
Motion passes.

NEW YORK DELEGATE LEFT MID-MOTION 9. ALTERNATE DELEGATE TOOK HIS PLACE. NORTHEAST REGIONAL TRUSTEE CALLED POINT OF ORDER THAT IT ISN'T ALLOWED. WSC CHAIR CONSULTING SERVICE MANUAL. WSC CHAIR RULED ALTERNATE ALLOWED TO JOIN TABLE IF DELEGATE LEFT FOR A VALID REASON. DECISION LEFT TO ALTERNATE. ALTERNATE DELGATE CHOSE TAKE THE DELEGATE'S PLACE AND WILL VOTE.

#### b. Motion 10

*Retire the "S-Ateen Checklist" pamphlet, which is a piece of Conference Approved Literature.*

Literature Committee Chair made the motion. No second required.

Motion open for discussion.

After discussion, question was called. 37 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstaining.  
Motion passes.

### **4. Adjournment**

## **WSC VOTING MEMBERS (in attendance)**

### BOARD OF TRUSTEES

- BOT & Executive Committee Chair
- BOT Secretary & Executive Committee Secretary
- BOT Treasurer
- WSO Executive Director
- SE Regional Trustee
- NE Regional Trustee
- NW Regional Trustee
- West Regional Trustee
- Policy Study & Service Communications Committee Chair
- Archives Committee Chair
- Literature Committee Chair
- Public Information and Outreach Committee Chair
- International Conventions Committee Chair & Trustee-at-Large
- World Service Conference Committee Chair
- S-Ateen Committee Chair
- Credentials Committee Member

### DELEGATES

- Arizona Delegate
- Colorado Delegate
- Florida Delegate
- Georgia Delegate
- North Carolina Delegate
- Oregon Delegate
- Illinois Delegate
- Indiana Delegate
- Kansas Delegate
- Maryland Delegate
- Massachusetts Delegate
- Michigan Delegate
- Missouri Delegate
- Montana Delegate
- New Jersey Delegate
- New York Delegate
- New Mexico Delegate

- Northern California Delegate
- Southern California Delegate
- Tennessee Delegate
- Texas Delegate
- Virginia Delegate
- Washington Delegate
- Eastern Canada Delegate
- Online Progress Meeting

## **WSC OBSERVERS AND SPECIAL WORKERS**

### **ALTERNATE DELEGATES**

- Arizona Alternate Delegate
- Oregon Alternate Delegate
- New York Alternate Delegate

### **WSC SPECIAL WORKERS**

- Parliamentarian
- WSC Secretary